

LAMBDA

Laurentian University's Student Newspaper
Le journal étudiant de l'Université Laurentienne
Volume 40 - Issue 15 / Numéro 15

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SPIDER-MAN

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Climbing Up the Bat-Pole Since 1961

LU Charity Ball Helps Support Community



by Nicole Walker
Charity Ball Committee Chair

On Saturday February 2nd, 2002 the Laurentian University community once again opened their hearts for a greater cause. The 2nd Annual Laurentian University Charity Ball was held at the Great Hall, with all proceeds going to Maison "La Paix", a local AIDS supportive housing unit. The evening commenced at 8pm and the dancing didn't stop until after midnight! Over 25 local businesses were very generous in donating towards the door prizes and the raffle draw.

The SGA and Ambassadors are pleased to provide the proceeds of the event to Maison "La Paix", a donation of \$1500. Along with the monetary donation the students of LU came together to present the Maison with a patchwork hanging made during the week of November 25th - December 1st which was AIDS awareness week. Students took the time to design patches to show their support for those who are affected by HIV / AIDS. These patches were sewn on to a background and presented to Leo Therrien, Executive Director of Maison "La Paix", from all Laurentian students.

All in all it was a great event enjoyed by all those in attendance!

Laurentian University Announces Honorary Degree Recipients for Spring 2002

LU Press Release

Laurentian University will award honorary doctorates to five distinguished citizens at its Spring Convocation Ceremonies in May and June 2002. The five honorees are:

Allan Beattie

A native of Copper Cliff, Ontario, Mr. Allan Beattie is a lawyer who rose to be the senior partner for many years in the prestigious law firm of Osler, Hoskin, Harcourt. He has held senior positions on the Boards of Eaton's of Canada Ltd., Telegram Corporation Limited, CTV Inc. and Eaton/Bay Financial Services. For over 45 years, Mr. Beattie made outstanding contributions of his time and energy to a wide variety of community activities including The Hospital for Sick Children, the Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, and The R. Samuel McLaughlin Foundation, from which Laurentian University received a \$1 million grant for the Chair in Cancer Research. Mr. Beattie is also a recipient of the Order of Ontario and the Order of Canada. Mr. Beattie will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws.

Jean Marc Dalpé

La Nuit sur l'étang, Prise de parole and the Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario are only a few of the links that this Franco Ontarian maintains with Sudbury. Currently residing in Montreal, Jean Marc Dalpé's reputation for his continuing contribution to the arts is impressive. Mr. Dalpé is well known for his poetry, dramatic, romantic and comedic plays, some of which have been translated into English. Worth noting are his adaptation of several productions such as Buried Child, The Glass Menagerie, Romeo and Juliette, and A Lie of the Mind which have played in Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal and Belgium. Having been acclaimed for his works in Ottawa, Montreal, Sudbury and

France, Mr. Dalpé is the recipient of numerous awards including three from the Governor General for Le Chien (1989), Il n'y a que l'amour (1999) and Un vent se lève qui éparpille (2000). He is also the recipient of l'Ordre des Francophones d'Amérique. His devotion to theatre as a playwright is relied upon by Laurentian University's Arts d'expression Program. Mr. Dalpé will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters.

George Ewan

Dr. George Ewan was the key founder of a scientific collaboration which led to the establishment of the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO), a project from which Laurentian University and Greater Sudbury have benefited greatly. A retired Queen's University physics professor, Dr. Ewan was instrumental in assembling a committee to plan a Canadian-led experiment in underground physics. Following the selection of Inco's Creighton Mine as the site for SNO, Dr. Ewan formed an international collaboration team which included members from Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom, and served as the first chair of the SNO board. Dr. Ewan was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a Fellow of the American Physical Society. He is also a recipient of the Gold Medal for Achievement in Physics of the Canadian Association of Physicists. Dr. Ewan will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Science.

Rick Mercer

A respected writer/actor, Rick Mercer's outstanding contribution to comedy with a political punch has been recognized with 12 Gemini Awards for both writing and performing on the top rated This Hour Has 22 Minutes. For his work on this se-

ries, Mercer was co-named Journalist of the Year at the Atlantic Journalism Awards. Other awards include the 1993 Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council Artist of the Year and, in 2000, three Canadian Comedy Awards for his work on This Hour and Made in Canada. Hailing from St. John's, Newfoundland, Rick Mercer's one-man show (Show Me the Button, Ill Push It) became a national hit and was performed from St. John's to Vancouver. His first book, Streeters quickly rose to #1 on the Globe and Mail's National Best Seller List. Mr. Mercer is currently starring in the Gemini Award winning comedy series Made in Canada. Mr. Mercer will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters.

Dorothy Pringle

A former Director of Laurentian University's School of Nursing (1975-1979), Dr. Dorothy Pringle presided over the School's rejuvenation and inspired the development of a bilingual program featuring a strong and innovative problem-based approach to learning. Her cutting-edge curriculum drove the LU Nursing program for over 20 years. A mentor to many students who have since attained great success as leaders in nursing education, research, administration and practice, Dr. Pringle had an illustrious career as a nurse researcher and academic administrator locally, provincially and nationally. As Dean of Nursing at the University of Toronto, she was instrumental in launching the first doctoral program in Nursing in Ontario and the second in Canada. Dr. Pringle also initiated an innovative program in nursing education, a clinically based masters program at the University of Toronto, and was a driving force behind the development of the Nurse Practitioner Program in Ontario. Dr. Pringle will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Science.

Acclaimed Biblical Storyteller to Present Annual Dick Lectureship

LU Press Release

Huntington University will present the annual Dick Lectureship on Thursday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m., at St. Andrew's United Church, 111 Larch Street in Sudbury. Everyone is invited and admission is free. A reception will follow the lecture.

Dennis Dewey, an internationally-acclaimed professional biblical storyteller, will present a lecture entitled "Give Us this Day: The Place of Bread in the Gospels." The audience will hear the gospel as never before and discover how the good news first sounded. This presentation will surprise and delight believers and nonbelievers.

Dewey, who makes his home in Utica, New York, majored in phi-

losophy but lived in the theater. His academic concentration was in liturgy and he also holds a Master's degree equivalency in education.

Dennis Dewey, who calls himself a minister of biblical story, has performed and led storytelling seminars all over the United States and Canada as well as in Europe, New Zealand, Australia, Korea and Israel. Ordained as a minister of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), he has been engaged full time in this itinerant, ecumenical ministry of biblical story since 1992.

Dennis Dewey has been a featured presenter at the Annual Festival-Gathering of the Network of Biblical Storytellers. He has performed and taught at hundreds of churches

and institutions such as Princeton Theological Seminary's Institute of Theology, the Joseph Campbell Festival, the National Storytelling Festival, and the 209th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). In 1997, he performed for 36,000 Lutheran youth in the New Orleans Superdome, and in 1998, for the Thanksgiving Day television special "A Gift of Stories."

According to Dewey, "The way to open the scriptures to post-literate culture is to let people hear these powerfully entertaining stories as they were originally experienced: as breath and sound and life, not as silent ink on paper."

This lecture is sponsored by Huntington University's Dick Trust.

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Helping Ontario Adapt To Our Changing Climate

LU Press Release

A new research network that will help us adapt to our changing climate will soon extend across the country. The coordinating office of the Canadian Climate Impacts and Adaptation Research Network for Ontario (C-CIARN Ontario) opened today on the campus of Laurentian University in Sudbury.

The network is part of a \$10-million investment from the Government of Canada to bring together researchers and decision makers from industry, governments and non-governmental organizations to work on climate change impacts and adaptation research. The Government of Canada is investing \$100,000 per year over five years for C-CIARN Ontario and the other regional links. Ontario's Ministry of the Environment is providing \$10,000 for the Ontario region and Laurentian University is contributing in-kind services.

"Linking users of research information with scientists will be key to effective adaptation strategies. By increasing our capacity to adapt, we can reduce our vulnerability to the effects of climate change," said Diane Marleau, Member of Parliament for Sudbury, on behalf of Herb Dhaliwal, Minister of Natural Resources Canada and David Anderson, Minister of the Environment. "I believe Laurentian University, with all its strategic linkages, is ideally suited to coordinate C-CIARN- Ontario."

"Collaboration has been a natural activity for Laurentian University, which has forged significant

synergistic research alliances with other universities in the province and across Canada, as well as innovative collaborations with a wide range of community partners," explained Laurentian University President Dr. Hermann Falter. "Laurentian University, with its partners Science North and Earthcare Sudbury, is strongly positioned to develop an integrated communications program to share relevant information about climate change impacts and adaptation within the scientific community and among policy makers and the public."

"This initiative will contribute to our knowledge base and allow us to better assess the impacts and effects of climate change on our province and the rest of the country," said Ontario Environment Minister Elizabeth Witmer. "We must continue to support research that will give us the tools to develop an effective climate change strategy."

Jim Marchbank, CEO of Science North, another supporting partner of C-CIARN-Ontario, added "Science North is keen to work with C-CIARN Ontario in a way that ensures heightened public understanding about the complexities of climate change, something we have already started with our new Climate Change object theatre. Communicating the science and encouraging public involvement is an important role for Science North."

"Our community is already recognized as an international leader in environmental research and rehabilitation, so we are very pleased that the federal and provincial govern-

ments have recognized our growing expertise in this vital field," said Greater Sudbury Mayor Jim Gordon. "For the past two years, the City has been leading a community partnership known as EarthCare Sudbury to develop local solutions for a greener, more sustainable future. The opening of this research network will complement our efforts and advance our objectives for environmental preservation and protection."

C-CIARN Ontario is one of six regions and seven sectors connecting researchers and stakeholders across the country. C-CIARN Ontario will engage researchers and stakeholders across the province who are interested in climate change impacts and adaptation in Ontario. C-CIARN- Ontario will help identify priorities for research and will provide policy and decision makers with credible information on the vulnerabilities of Ontario to climate change. In addition, the network will help to identify research gaps, priorities and capacity needs.

A Management Committee, chaired by Dr. David Pearson, earth sciences professor at Laurentian University, will oversee the network's operations. A broadly based Ontario Advisory Committee will be announced shortly.

Federal funding for C-CIARN is provided for in the Government of Canada budget and is therefore built into the existing financial framework. The funding for this initiative builds on the Government of Canada's \$1.1-billion commitment to help address climate change and implement energy-efficient initiatives.

Piano Recital by Yoko Hirota

LU Press Release

Huntington University presents a recital of Yoko Hirota at St. Andrew's United Church on Sunday, March 10, at 3 p.m. The concert is exclusively built by piano solo works of Canadian, American, and Japanese composers of two different generations. Among the established composers, we can listen to works by Bruce Mather (Canada), Elliott Carter (U.S.A.) and the celebrated Japanese composer Toru Takemitsu. For the emerging young composers, Yoko Hirota will interpret works by Robert Lemay (Canada), Mike Kuehn (U.S.A.) and Keiko Yamanaka (Japan).

Born in Japan, Yoko Hirota began her piano studies at age four. She has won several prestigious prizes at piano competitions, most recently a special mention prize at Clara Lichtenstein Piano Competi-

tion in Montreal. She was a semi-finalist at Nutley Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition in New Jersey.

Dr. Hirota has given numerous concerts, including an invitation-performance at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo in 1996, and played with renowned musicians such as Fritz Gearhart, a former violinist of Chester Quartet, and Yegor Dyachkov, a Russian cellist. Many of her performances have been broadcast by Radio-Canada; most recently her performance with the Nouvel ensemble moderne playing Joy by Magnus Lindberg was recorded and broadcast for Radio-Canada. Yoko Hirota performs regularly with her duo-partner, Jean-François Guay, a member of Quatuor de saxophones Nelligan and the president of the Canadian Saxophone Association.

Dr. Hirota has been active giving lecture-recitals at universities

across Canada and USA. She has often been called for adjudicator and master-class clinician, and as accompanist and coach. Dr. Hirota has worked at Aspen Music School, the Belvoir Art Academy, and the National String Orchestra Association Music Camp in Ithaca, New York. Since 1998, she has been the accompanist for the saxophone class of Jean-Marie Londeix at International Music Festival of Domaine Forget in Quebec.

Since 2000, Yoko Hirota is a piano professor at Huntington University in Sudbury, Ontario. Dr. Hirota's future projects include a recording of her CD on Schoenberg's complete piano works with the 17 fragments.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. They are available at the door, at Huntington University, and at Black Cat Too.

News Briefs

Conference to Raise Awareness about Accident and Injury Prevention

On Thursday, March 7, and Friday, March 8, Laurentian University's School of Human Kinetics, jointly with the Mines and Aggregates Safety and Health Association, will host its 6th annual kinesiology conference in the Willet Green Miller Centre. This year's topic will be "New Workers and Young Workers, a Focus on Accident and Injury Prevention." The public and media are invited to take part in this conference.

On Thursday, March 7, from 9 a.m. 12:30 p.m., participants will take part in a dynamic pre-conference workshop entitled "Understanding Risk, Applications for the Workplace" to be presented by Dr. Gerald Wilde from Queen's University.

The conference will continue with an "Information Exposition" to be held from 2 to 4 p.m. The exposition, which will include displays and booths, will consist of an interactive group of displays that will provide participants with the opportunity to meet colleagues, discuss current programs and cutting-edge techniques.

Dr. Carol Runyan will present the keynote address on Thursday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Runyan, a University of North Carolina professor, is well-known internationally for her research regarding young workers and injury.

The conference will continue on Friday, March 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with presentations on various subjects such as "Young Worker Safety," "Fatigue and Young Workers," and "Hazard Recognition."

Laurentian University Hosts March Break Program

On Monday, March 11 and Friday, March 15, Laurentian University will host its annual March Break Programs. Secondary school students interested in learning more about Laurentian are welcome to come for campus and residence tours, meet with Liaison staff, and talk to professors in their areas of interest. The March 11 session will be held in English, while the one presented on March 15 will be in French.

This event will enable secondary school students from all parts of Ontario to gain valuable information about Laurentian University. During this day of information, which will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Laurentian representatives will offer survival tips for parents and students. There will also be an info fair on student services, mini-lectures, transition panels, visits to academic departments, campus and residence tours, and a free lunch.

Campus tours and information will also be available through Liaison Services during the March Break (March 11-15).

As explained by Dr. Hermann Falter, President of Laurentian University, "The March Break program will enable students, who are considering our University, to obtain as much information as possible about Laurentian. Our goal is to address their concerns, provide them with information on our many programs and services, and show them that Laurentian is the best possible choice."

Last year, about 300 OAC students and guests, mainly from outside the Sudbury area, took part in Laurentian's March Break program. The value of this activity is reflected in the fact that 70% of participating students registered at Laurentian University in September 2001.

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Lambda circulates 3,100 copies throughout the city of Sudbury and the Laurentian University Campus. We thank the following for permitting us to circulate our paper at their establishments.

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EDITOR'S CORNER

University Wasteland...

by Mat Thompson
Editor-In-Chief

As the days go by this school starts to look worse and worse. Laurentian is turning into a wasteland, filled with filth and garbage. Everything around is making it less picturesque than the brochures we were sent in our frosh kits. But who do we blame for this? The blame can only be placed on the collective staff and students here at Laurentian.

Have you been able to walk a path, or up a set of stairs, or even out a doorway without walking over garbage, discarded papers or even cigarette butts? I have been here for five years now and there has not been a clean day since Frosh Week '96 began.

Although we have Butt Stop locations around the school, there are still discarded cancer tubes all over the ground. Although we have recycling bins and garbage receptacles every five steps, there is still every type of reusable and non-reusable trash everywhere. And even though there are rules and regulations as well as bulletin boards as to the placing of posters around the school, there are still hundreds upon hundreds of posters that should not even be placed on the walls and windows in the first place.

If you have ever tried to have a bunch of posters put up at Laurentian, you know that you have to have them stamped by either the Director of Services, The SGA or the Student Centre. Once the post-

ers are stamped you are free to put them up wherever and whenever you want. Easy enough. But when it comes to the removal of the posters, the original poster hangers disappear faster than a case on Eleventh Floor UC!

Before our much deserved Reading Week, we had the Days of Action. Our wonderful student activists acted on behalf of the Canadian Federation of Students and placed posters everywhere. Many of these posters were calling for a freeze on tuition, the resolution of student debt, and even a free lunch in the Great Hall. Now, most of these posters can stay up for a while, but why were the posters for the free lunch still up all over the school more than a week after the event? this probably caused confusion for most students as every poster I looked at had no date on it.

The 'Free Lunch' posters are not the only ones I have noticed. There are posters still in the stairwells and hallways that are for a 'Welcome Back Wine and Cheese', 'Special Speaker in the Frasier' and other events that are more than a month past date. Why should we look at these this long after and why have they not been removed? It should not be up to the cleaning staff of the school to remove these posters, but the students and groups who originally put them up.

During the SGA elections candidates can place posters in designated areas. These regulations basically cover every inch of the school

other than page 126 of my English textbook and the bottom of my left shoe, but there are rules as to the removal of the posters. Once the election is over, I am sure that they must have all election posters, banners and all other propaganda down within 24 - 48 hours of the final results. This is usually adhered to as students can and will be fined for leaving posters up. So why can't the school do this?

All the school would have to do is get a name and student number when posters are submitted to be stamped. The student is then given a form that outlines that they must remove the posters within one week of the posted event or they will be fined a certain amount for each poster found on the walls. It is so simple. Just because the posters have left your hands it does not mean that you are not still responsible for them.

I know a lot of people are asking themselves why would I give the school another money making scheme? Well, I am sure they could somehow funnel the funds from poster fines into another small bursary to the students. Who couldn't use another couple of hundred dollars from the all new Director of Services Bursary? I sure could!

Lambda has always given free space for student groups to advertise their upcoming events, and we have always supported groups advertising through posters, but it is getting a little out of hand. Anyone can place a poster (a stamped one) on the walls, but why is it that no one seems to take

them down? This school looks like crap when there are hundreds of month old posters all over the place.

If you put the posters up, then you can take them down. You had the time to tape them to the walls, stairs and windows, so obviously you can go and rip them down too. This school looks like a wasteland of yellow, pink, green and blue posters that don't mean anything after while. Maybe some sort of rules do need to be put in place to keep this place a little cleaner.

I wonder if I go take down that poster in the Bowling Alley that claims there is a 'Free Lunch today in the Great Hall', if Aramark would have to give me a free burger and fries? There's no date on it and technically it would be false advertising if they didn't serve me. I wonder who would take the major shit for that...

SPACE FOR RANT ... Letters to the Editor

The Information Super Highway At A Crawl

I live in res and all year long the internet has been nothing but slow and annoying. We pay good money to have a connection that is fast and efficient somewhat like it was last year. This year however it has been no better and sometimes worse than a phone line connection at 14.4. Honestly, it has been so bad that I have contemplated yanking the stupid network cable out of the wall and hooking my phone line into my modem just so I can check my two whole emails in less than an hour. What is the point of having a network that handles a T1 or better connection if it's not going to be available for the students to use properly? If there is someone out there who can help me out on this I'd love to get a response. Please feel free to write a response to this article in Lambda so that not only will I be told why we are being ripped off, but everyone on campus who is upset will know as well. The year is almost over and I intend to return to residence next year, but if the net connection is this slow, paying for a modem connection just may be a realistic action.

Ray McGregor

Dear Ms. Claire Raymond,

The University's policies on grievances and arbitration is a particular concern of mine and the SGA's, and I'm glad to see that students are taking an interest in where the University is spending their money. Earlier this year, LAMBDA published an article explaining the University's reasons behind arbitration, as well as the union's, Laurentian University Staff Union in my experience, to explain how student money is being spent. Keep in mind that Laurentian University uses money in other areas, but this area seems to be the biggest waste. So long as students keep wondering where their money is going, eventually we will have to receive answers.

The space issue at Laurentian is one that hopefully will be alleviated with the influx of funding the school is hoping to get from the double cohort. I feel that we, the students, should be focusing on enrollment, and after those numbers go up, then we can handle the space problem...hopefully there is one!!

Parking is an issue I supported...I agreed to the increase, because I felt that one big increase would be better than several small ones over the next few years.

Thank you for your letter, Claire. I hope that I have answered some of your questions, and feel free to contact me if you have any more.

Sincerely,
Taylor Paxton
SGA President

Volume 40 Issue 14 / Numéro 14



Cover Photo:
Universal Studios
The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man

Write to Us, But Remember...

All submissions become the property of Lambda Publications and thus will be subject to editing. Letters submitted must bear the author's full name and student number. Letters will not even be considered without this information, but names will be withheld upon request. Letters must be no longer than 250 words. Lambda reserves the right to edit for content considered sexist, racist, homophobic, heterosexist or for length. Letters of a harrasing or slanderous manner will be dealt with by the proper authorities.

Lambda

E-mailed Submissions

If you are emailing us a submission for the paper, please ensure that the attached file is saved as a TEXT file as we cannot transfer other files. Please ensure that ALL submissions have your name and student ID # on them or they will not even be considered for print under Lambda Publications Policy Manual.

Copy Deadline: Fridays @ 2:30pm
Editorial and General Meetings: Fridays @ 2pm

SGA
AGE

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ELECTIONS
will be open from

Monday, March 4/02 at 9am
to
Monday, March 18/02 at 4pm

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VICE PRESIDENT SERVICES

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Nomination sheets and more information can be obtained at
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SGA
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sion of a minimum five hundred
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 - Applications must be received
by Thursday, March 28th @ 4pm
- Please contact Taylor Paxton at
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March CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
	SGA Nomination Period Begins	Income Tax Preparation on Wednesday's in the SGA office			1 Mondo Idols in the Pub	2
3	4 Pancake Breakfast 9-12 room L-239	5 Native Women's Health 12:30-2 SGA Common's Room	6 Open Discussion SGA Common's Room 12:2-3:0 Board Meeting @ 5pm room L-239	7 Up/Healthy Sexuality 4:30-6:00 SGA Common's Room	8 Prizes prizes Open Mic Night -Open for Melanie's Love Seat -A chance to win a Day of Recording	9 Melanie's Love Seat
International Women's Week						
10	11	12	13 SGA Board Meeting @ 5pm room L-239	14	15	16
17	18 SGA Nomination Period Ends SGA Campaigning Starts	19	20 Last Chance for Legal Advice 1-4 pm	21 Candidate Speeches in the at Hall	22	23
24 31	25	26 Candidate Speeches in the Science Cafeteria	27 SGA Board Meeting @ 5pm room L-239	28	29 Good Friday	30



Photo by Niko Lehocky

Is This Really The End?

by Jason Andrade
Sports Editor

They say that all good things must, undeniably, eventually come to an end. Truer words were never spoken as we, the faithful Voyageur fan following, took advantage of our last opportunity to witness sport excellence in the Ben Avery Gymnasium. On Saturday, February 9, 2002, our Laurentian Voyageurs took to their home court to do battle with perennial OUA West Division powerhouse, the McMaster Marauders.

Before the opening tip, all respect due was given to four members of this year's Voyageurs Men's Basketball Team. With their families in attendance, #12 Leon Sutton, #14 Patrick Brandt, #21 Dwayne Burton, and #32 Rob Anecchini were presented with framed Voyageurs jerseys, symbolic of the appreciation we have for the efforts they have given over the course of their careers. Also present to show his support for friends and former teammates was Voyageur sharpshooter Clifton Edwards. He is strongly rumored to return to the north next year, but that's a story for another time.

Starter Dwayne Burton was medically ineligible for the game, still suffering from the effects of a concussion incurred during a previous contest. Asked later about what it was like to not be able to play at home for the final game, Burton replied, "It was tough. I wanted to get out there with them, even in warm-

ups. That's why I was passing balls to the guys". Starting in the final home game of the season were Jim Jefferson, Jermaine Pendley, Brandt, Anecchini and Sutton. The visiting Marauders won the opening tip. McMaster quickly advanced the ball up-court where rookie guard Rob Scully drained the game's first shot attempt for three points. This was seen as a bad omen by a number of fans in attendance and the Voyageurs quickly fell behind. At the 5:00 mark of the first half, Laurentian found itself trailing by a score of 13-3. The Voyageurs regrouped and refocused. Steadying the ship was veteran point guard Jermaine Pendley and fabulous floor control from rookie point guard Ryan Done. The final minute of the first half brought the crowd to their feet as Done struck for three and Brandt scored on a tremendous up and under move (also known as the "slippery fish") as time ran out. At half time, the Voyageurs found themselves on the wrong end of a 38-35 score. Positives out of that half however included the aforementioned steady play at the point guard position, Chris Tilley's 7 points and 8 rebounds, Brandt's 6 and 8, and Jim Jefferson's 8 points which led the team. Unfortunately, the basket that the home team was shooting at seemed to have a lid over top, as Laurentian shot an anemic 34% from the floor in the first half going 11-for-32. This may make things sound bleak, but if you're a true Voyageur

fan, you know that things always have a way of turning themselves around.

The first possession of the second half was Laurentian's opportunity to make a statement of it's own. That said, offensive workhorse Jim Jefferson scored drawing the foul and converted the three-point play. Coming up big for the Voyageurs in the second half was 4th year post, Rob Anecchini. Soul Train was everywhere in the second half, determined to build on his 3 points and 4 rebounds from the opening period. It was Rob's conversion of two free throws at the 19:00 mark, which drew the game into a 40-40 tie. 1:08 later, Laurentian rode the Soul Train in transition as Rob slashed through traffic, scored, drew the foul and converted on the free throw. These points gave Laurentian its first lead of the game with a score of 44-42. The lead would be short-lived, but the tenacious, pit-bull defense of Leon Sutton would force another McMaster turnover. A quick assist for Trigz as Pendley finished on the break would once again tie the game at 56 points apiece.

From this point, it was simply the Voyageurs' inability to put the ball in the basket, which proved to be their downfall. With our men shooting only 31.4% in the second half, McMaster slowly but steadily pulled away, led by their own dynamic duo of Ben Katz and Graham Hewitt who scored 17 points each.

The final score of 83-70 at first would seem disappointing, yet positives drawn from this game included: Brandt's double-double finishing with 12 and 12; Soul Train's 8 points and 5 boards while shooting 80% from the line; Tilley's double-double with 13 and 12 and; most significantly our chance to send Voyageur gladiator Leon Sutton off the court the way it should have been done. Being around Leon for the last five years gives me perhaps a little more insight than most of you. One of the toughest men I've ever played with OR against, I'm sure that if Leon were ever to bleed (which I've never seen), the blood would be Blue and Gold. Jefferson led all Voyageur scorers with 14 points in the contest.

After the game, I had opportunity to speak with the four graduating athletes where they had an opportunity to address the Lambda reading public and the Voyageurs that they will leave behind at the end of this year.

I asked the four of them whether there was one thought that they would leave with their teammates for the future. Not surprisingly, Sutton responded by simply saying, "Play hard". Burton added, "Don't get caught up looking to the future. You never know when your last game is going to be". When asked if there was anything that he would go back and change (not including the obvious-winning a national championship), Burton said,

"You know, you can always look back, wish this or wish that, but I wouldn't change anything". I followed this by asking the guys whether they had any final thoughts. Brandt started by saying that it was tough to take the loss, especially in their last game at home and in their careers. Anecchini was quick to note that he's had "a great 4 years". He mentioned that the fans have been terrific for as long as he's been here and he hopes that the trend continues. Anecchini informed me that "Coach wanted the other guys to play for the seniors (graduating players). Everyone played great. I couldn't ask for more. Everyone played great". For those of you not aware, Soul Train's energies are most often effective when he plays as a 7th or 8th man in the rotation. Granted the start in his final home game, Soul told me that he tried to get up for the start, what with his family and friends in attendance. "Coach Hill is a great coach. Campbell was as well. I learned a lot".

They say that you never really lose the people or things that matter to you. With that, I won't take this opportunity to say goodbye to these guys. I could say "so long" and let them fade into and out of our memories. Rather than that though, I'll simply say "Thanks", because that's all there is to say.



Athletes of the Week

Male Athlete of the Week (Feb 19 - Feb 24)

Name: Serge Loiselle

Sport: Swimming

Rookie Serge Loiselle of the Laurentian Voyageurs men's swim team, was named the Pat & Mario's Athlete of the Week for his strong performance this past weekend at the CIS Swimming Championships, held at the University of British Columbia. Hanmer native, Serge Loiselle was able to capture an impressive 8th place finish in the 200m Freestyle race. This race was a challenging one as Serge was swimming against three Olympic athletes. Serge also managed an impressive 3rd place finish in the consolation round of the 400m Freestyle with a personal best time of 3:58.25. In addition Serge contributed to the 800m Freestyle Relay Team consolation finish of 5th place. Serge has proven himself this season to be an integral part of the Swim Team and he will have a bright future ahead for continued success with the team.

Female Athlete of the Week (Feb. 18 - Feb. 24)

Name: Christie Smith

Sport: Swimming

Third year veteran, Christie Smith of the Laurentian Lady Aqua Vees swim team was named the Pat & Mario's Athlete of the Week for her strong performance this past weekend at the CIS Swimming Championships held at the University of British Columbia. Christie managed a strong 5th place finish in the consolation round of the 100m Breaststroke and a 6th place consolation finish in the 50m Breaststroke. Coach Phil Parker was very pleased with Christie's performance as she was up against some of the best in Canada. Christie has finished up the season on a positive note and her strong leadership is recognised as a contributing factor to the success of the team.

Weekend Wrap-Up, Voyageur Style!!!

By Jason Andrade
Sports Editor

Ah, March has finally arrived and with it, the promise of spring. (yeah right), exams, and Voyageur playoff action. The first weekend of March found both our Voyageurs Men's and Women's basketball teams in the thick of playoff action. Our favorites found themselves in the T-dot looking for post-season glory at the expense of their OUA East competitors.

Our men were scheduled to face the University

of Toronto Blues in the OUA East quarterfinals. It wasn't until they arrived at the gym for practice that day that our Voyageurs received a surprise from Coach Hill. Drawing on his ties with the National Men's Team, Coach Hill's practice was observed by none other than Canadian Men's Team Head Coach Jay Triano. After practice, Coach Triano spoke with the team with regard to his experiences at the Olympic level and his feeling that the Vees would indeed be victorious over the University of Toronto. Can you say psychic? Starting with somewhat anemic shooting, the Voyageurs found themselves filling the basket at a clip of only 38.5%. This wasn't a huge problem though, as the U of T Blues (what the hell is a "blue" anyway? And no, it's not a reference to the beer) only shot 29.6% from the floor in the opening frame. Add to these numbers to the blistering 60% from the land of make 3-lieve that our Voyageurs shot, and it was evident that good, if not great things, were in the works. The half-time score was in favor of Laurentian 36-26.

The second half saw Toronto's shooting improve to 48.3% from the floor. It was to no avail however, as our Boys in Blue (and Gold) stepped up to the plate and delivered-shooting 54.2% for the remainder of the game. Our Vees handed the U of T Blues a quarterfinal loss in the single-elimination tournament on their own home court. With a final score of 70-61 in favor of Laurentian, U of T was singing the blues as their season had come to a close. Jim Jefferson's 25 points and Chris Tilley's 18 points in the contest led the Voyageurs.

In their second match of the tournament, our boys faced off against the Carleton Ravens. The task at hand was simple: defeat the #2 ranked team in the nation for a chance to advance to the Final 8 tournament. The contest went back and forth between the two teams with the score tied at 33 points apiece at half-time. The first half of this game

had the Voyageurs firing out of the gate, shooting almost 54% from the floor. Conversely, the Carleton Ravens shot only 39.4% from the floor in an attempt to counteract our heroes. The second half though, would be a true reversal of fortunes for both teams as shooting percentages essentially flip-flopped. The game was actually tied with approximately 6 and a half minutes to play, but fatigue became a mitigating factor as the Voyageurs seemed unable to score. Carleton took advantage of this and closed out the game shooting 100% from the free throw line. Outscored 38-27 in the second half, Laurentian was defeated by a final score of 71-60. High man for the Voyageurs in their final game of the season was 3rd year guard Jermaine Pendley, who scored 20 points in 33 minutes of action. As a reward for his hard work and dedication to the Laurentian Voyageurs, sharpshooter Jim Jefferson was selected to the OUA East Division All-Star 2nd Team.

Since it seems that some people around here don't find Women's basketball to be as exciting as Men's ("it's boring"), I guess that I'll take the initiative and write our Women's recap.

How often has something happened that makes you stop and just say, "huh"? They say that especially in the world of sport, anything can happen at anytime and that anyone can be beaten at anytime. Our Laurentian Lady Vees opened the regular season on a terrorizing 17 game win streak. Determined to destroy anything in their path, this team looked like someone making their return to the Pub after being banned. With fire in their eyes all season, this team looked poised to make a 24th consecutive trip to Nationals, with the oh-so-elusive title well within their grasp. An unexpected three game losing streak to close out the season in the final weekend before playoffs seemed to rock the Good Ship Lollipop. Entering the playoffs, the Lady Vees were seeded against the Ryerson



Voyageur Rule #32: Only Yell When the Coach is Not Around (He's a Big Guy!)

Lady Rams. With three starters not able to perform at peak capacity, the road ahead would be tough. Rather than doing their impression of the Good Ship Lollipop though, the Lady Vees looked more like the mighty Titanic. Unfortunately, Ryerson did its best "iceberg" impersonation and with that, the Titanic looked more like the Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald. Losing in the first round of the playoffs sent our Lady Vees home, disappointed in the result of the game but proud of the accomplishments which had been achieved to that point in their season. What achievements you ask? How about Clare Beatty being named OUA East Division Most Valuable Player. In addition to that, how about Clare Beatty also being named as the Defensive Player of the Year, averaging just under 5 rebounds and 3 steals per game. She becomes the third consecutive Lady Vee to win this award, joining Stephanie "Red" Harrison, and Shauna Conway. Tierney Hoo built on her Rookie of the Year status from last year and was also named to the East All-Star team to join Clare. You got all her numbers in last week's issue; she's the real deal. Cara Dodsley also garnered a spot for herself on this year's All-Star squad by virtue of dominating post play, both offensively and defensively. Last, but not least Coach John Campbell has been selected by a group of his peers, as the OUA Coach of the Year for the second time in only three years. Leading his team to a 17-3 regular season record is quite a feat, and when you add the fact that the Lady Vees were the only team in the entire OUA to be ranked in the National Top 10, the selection was really a no-brainer.

Tune in next week as we sit down with Voyageurs Head Coaches Virgil Hill and John Campbell to discuss the season that was, and the one that lies ahead. I'd like to take this time to thank both our Men's and Women's teams for a fabulous year and a continuation of the rich tradition of Voyageur Basketball.

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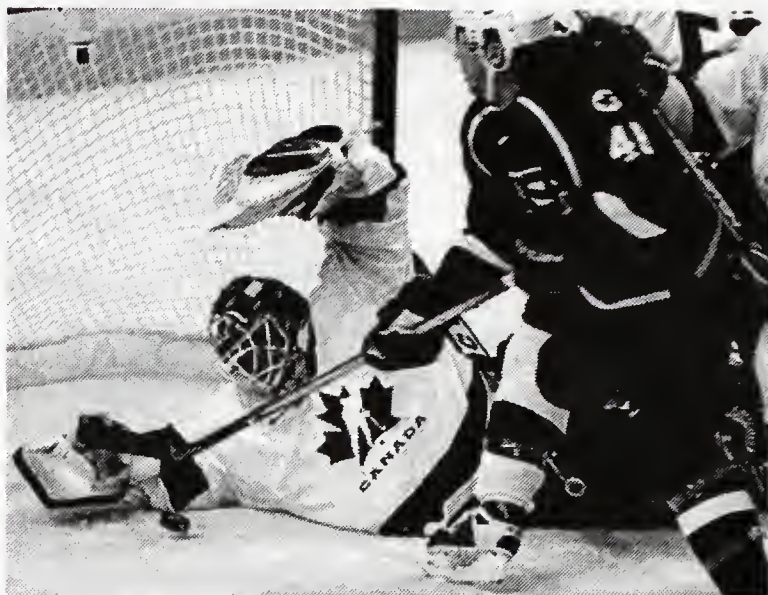
by Ray McGregor
Staff Writer

Wayne Gretzky and Don Cherry said it best last week. Everyone hates Canada but we love the world. It was apparent this year that the world or at least a few jealous

countries do hate us. If they didn't, there would have been no question that Sale and Pelletier won the gold medal in pairs figure skating hands down. Even after all the controversy and fighting our skaters went

through, the Russians were still upset that two gold medals were awarded. Well fine, take away the Russian's gold medal because Sale and Pelletier skated better than them anyway.

This was the best showing Canada has ever had at the winter games, with seventeen medals. Marc Gagnon becomes the second Canadian to win five medals, and Clara Hughes becomes the first Canadian to win a medal in both the summer and winter games. Clara won a bronze in speed skating as well as one in cycling. Our men's short track speed skating relay team won gold by a large amount and actually lapping the Americans. Catriona Le May Doan won gold yet again and our curlers both won medals. I'm sure most of us had declared both our men's and women's team to be the gold medal favorites after watching both Kevin Martin and Kelley Law's rink breeze through the opening round but we can still be happy they both came home with medals.



American Goals Were About As Common As Jamaican Gold Medals!

The one sport that makes this a great Olympics for most Canadians has to be the hockey. The only real competition on the women's side was between Canada and the States so it was no real surprise when both teams came face to face in the gold medal game. The US beat Canada in their last eight meetings so it was Canada's time to show the States just who rules the world in the game of hockey and that's exactly what they did. Haley Wickenheiser said it best when the game was over. "Before the game they had our country's flag on the floor of their dressing room, now I want to know if they want us to sign it for them?" Wickenheiser, who played exceptionally well, and Cassey Campbell both showed their true emotion and pride for the team and our country during their interviews after the game. It was hard to keep a dry eye while the two told the world just how happy they were.

After the women won, it was the men's turn to dominate our national sport on the international stage. The only problem was that after the preliminary round it didn't look so promising for the men. Sweden gave us the thrashing of a lifetime and we barely beat Germany. But after the Czech Republic coach said Mario Lemieux skated like an old tractor, Mario took the initiative and stepped up scoring two goals against Dominik Hasek. Suddenly team Canada began to show some promise and the

world turned their heads and took notice. Sweden took an upsetting loss to Belarus and that left the door open for Canada to play Belarus in the semifinals. This is when Canada really played the way the world expected them to, leading to the gold medal game against the US. Since the first day of the Olympics, we heard everything about the 1980 US gold medal winning team, the "Miracle On Ice". The remaining Edmonton Mercury team, Canada's gold medal team from fifty years ago showed up to talk to team Canada and let them know what it means to win gold for Canada. As we know these gentlemen inspired our boys. Don Cherry predicted Canada would win and by a generous score as was the case. Canada beat the States five to two with Joe Sakic leading the way with two goals.

It was a great Olympics for Canada and our athletes showed pride and class in both winning and losing situations. The country stood behind our athletes and proved just how classy our country really is. After the men won hockey gold, the streets in major cities were shut down and there was celebration all across Canada; but, unlike other countries, there was no looting or rioting, just a bunch of happy Canucks celebrating Canada's victory. We showed the world what we are made of and we proved once again we are the first and greatest nation of hockey.



Dive All You Want... We Still Kicked Your Ass 5-2

Is That The Best You Can Do???

by Jason Andrade
Sports Editor

Danny, Danny, Danny, I'll give you SOME credit. You did your best. The sad thing is that your best simply isn't good enough in this instance. I put forth the challenge to anyone who dared respond to my last Clippers article and you valiantly answered the call. It's too bad that your article has got more holes in it than the path from the Pub to U of S.

It's funny that I have opportunity to write this article on the heels of another Orlando Magic victory over the Craptors. Their last meeting served as inspiration for my previous article and provided some much needed comic relief as I watched the JYD try to keep up with "The Assassin" Tracy McGrady.

Let's start with your hero Antonio Davis. Yeah, it's true that AD started to light it up after I had written my previous article, but as soon as you wrote yours, Davis went colder than Aramark gravy at 1:30pm on a Wednesday. "Definite second option" my ass. Let's look at "second options" around the league: Mike Miller, Wally Szcerbiak, Kobe Bryant (or is it Shaquille O'Neal??). These guys are relied upon to score a minimum of 15 points every night, and THEY DELIVER. If Antonio Davis is the actual #2 option for the Toronto Craptors, he should be the number one guy when Wince is out with injury. Rather than rise to the occasion, AD shrunk faster than a first year student at home for the summer. Second option indeed.....

Morris Peterson is "coming up with big plays to win games"? Wasn't it Snow Pea's three-point airball with 7 seconds to play that sealed the fate of the mighty Craptors against the Magic? Didn't Snow Pea go 0-for-7 in that game? His flair for scoring that night was as evident as Stogie's in the Pub.

I'll concede on one or two points. Alvin Williams has definitely

come around and become a solid NBA point guard. At 6'5" he brings size to the position and ridiculous work ethic on the defensive end of the floor. "Mr. 4th Quarter" has proven to be a clutch player for this team as he has buried many a buzzer beater to seal victories for his team. Keon Clark brings a phenomenal amount of energy to a Craptors team that badly needs it. His slight frame reminds me of someone I know (hmm.....), and his height and speed cause match-up problems for 4's and 5's around the league. I've seen Keon put down some dunks that have had some "stank" on them.

But with that being said, let's talk about the fact that you refer to the Craptors as being "one of the deepest teams in the league". Are you on crack? Do you know where you are right now? You are not living in Portland circa 1999. You don't have a home team that has two starting lines. You are not living in Dallas, watching the Mavs get their groove on on the court. You're not in Milwaukee watching "the big three" fight for touches. You're in Sudbury, 2002. Watching the Craptors and cheering them on as your home team. Within an 8-week window, 7 members of your oh-so-deep team have made stops on the injured list. The Dream, Dell, Tracy Murray, JYD, Snow Pea and Wince himself have all been on the list recently. Your team is so "deep" that even little-used post Mamadou "Whatta guy" N'Diaye came off the injured reserve and had to go back on. Eric Montross was starting at centre. Your team is so "deep" that Clark was starting at the 3. Your team was so very, very "deep" that even Yogi was getting big minutes. If your "great" team was so deep, why lose 7 in a row (including the Knicks, Pistons and Sonics) in the absence of Wince?

Finally we come to the great,

Wince "I'm a star" Carter. "Hi, I'm a slam dunk artist that doesn't play very good defence consistently enough to lead my team to convincing wins". Wince's latest stop on the injured list came as a result of a quadriceps strain. Hey, injuries happen. I'm not going to fault him for that. I think that it's funny that he made his return after sitting out 7 games and his Craptors lost two more, to extend the losing streak to nine games. I watched the highlights (or lowlights, depending on your point of view), and I've got to tell you that it brought a smile to my face to see Wince sitting on the bench at the end of the game with his head hung low, seemingly in tears. It's about time that he took playing, winning AND losing more seriously. Until Wince gets tougher mentally, I'm going to be on his case.

Let's finish up by taking a quick look at All-Star Weekend, Danny. I think you asked me how many Clippers made it to the All-Star game. From what I remember, Elton Brand played in the All-Star game this year and did well for himself. Also, Q-Rich and D-Miles were both invited to play in the rookie/sophomore game. Further to that, Q also competed in the long-distance shootout. So based on the number of Clippers present and the number of (major) events, I'm 3-for-3.

If you're going to try to convince me that the Craptors are a great team, you'd have more luck convincing me that the fries that you serve over lunch "just came up out of the deep fryer". Surely, if they're "one of the deepest teams in the league", someone would have to have been in Philly for All-Star weekend. Oh well. I guess that your Craptors are gonna have to hang out with that other big purple dinosaur. But don't worry, "he loves you" and I'm sure that if they ask real nice, they can be "a happy family".

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Arts & Entertainment

Academy Award-Winning Animation Director and Artist, Chuck Jones, Passes Away at 89

www.chuckjones.com

Chuck Jones, legendary animation director and artist, best known for his work on the Warner Bros. classic Looney Tunes cartoon series, died today of congestive heart failure. Marian, his wife of 20 years, was by his side at their home in Corona del Mar.

In a career spanning over 60 years, Jones made more than 300 animated films, winning three Oscars as director and in 1996 an honorary Oscar for Lifetime Achievement. Among the many awards and recognitions, one of those most valued was the honorary life membership from the Directors Guild of America.

During the Golden Age of animation Jones helped bring to life many of Warner Bros. most famous characters—Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd and Porky Pig. The list of characters he created himself includes Road Runner, Wile E. Coyote, Marvin Martian, Pepe le Pew, Michigan J. Frog and many others. He also produced, directed and wrote the screenplays for "Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*," a television classic, as well as the feature-length film "*The Phantom Tollbooth*." In addition, Jones was a pro-

lific artist whose work has been exhibited at galleries and museums worldwide.

Jones often recalled a small child who, when told that Jones drew Bugs Bunny, replied: "He doesn't draw Bugs Bunny. He draws pictures of Bugs Bunny." His point was that the child thought of the character as being alive and believable, which was, in Jones' belief, the key to true character animation.

Born on September 21, 1912 in Spokane, Washington, Jones grew up in Hollywood where he observed the talents of Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton and worked occasionally as a child extra in Mac Sennett comedies. After graduating from Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles (now California Institute of the Arts) Jones drew pencil portraits for a dollar a piece on Olvera Street. Then, in 1932, he got his first job in the fledgling animation industry as a cel washer for former Disney animator, Ubbe Iwerks.

In 1936 Jones became an animator for the Leon Schlesinger Studio (later sold to Warner Bros.), and in 1938 directed his first film, *The Night Watchman*. Heading his own unit, Jones remained at Warner Bros. Animation Dept. until it closed in 1962. During that time he and several other directors developed and refined the personalities and characteristics of Bugs Bunny, Porky Pig, Daffy Duck and many others.

He moved to MGM Studios where he created new episodes from the Tom and Jerry cartoon series. While there, in addition to *The Phantom Tollbooth* and *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, Jones directed the Academy Award winning film, *The Dot and the Line*.

Jones established his own production company, Chuck Jones Enterprises, in 1962 and produced nine half-hour animation films for television including Rudyard Kipling's *Rikki Tikki Tavi* and *The White Seal*.

In the late 70s Jones and his daughter, Linda Jones

Clough, pioneered a continuing art business featuring limited edition images created by Jones depicting scenes from his most enduring cartoons. One of those films was the Wagnerian mini epic, *What's Opera, Doc?* which in 1992 was inducted into the National Film Registry for being "among the most culturally, historically and aesthetically significant films of our time."

In recent years, Jones' work has been honored at film festivals and museums throughout the world, including a one-man retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. His autobiography, *Chuck Amuck*, appeared in 1989, now in its fifth printing. *Chuck Reducks*, his follow-up to the first book, was published two years later.

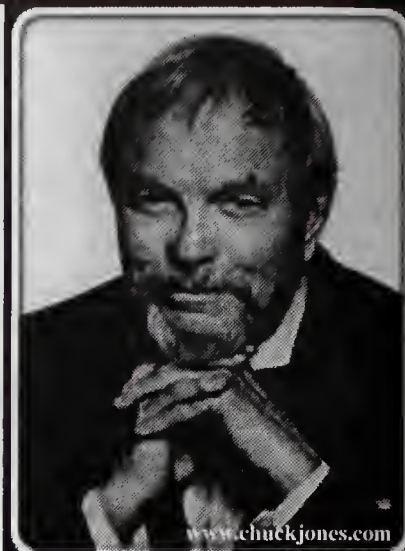
Two years ago, Jones established the Chuck Jones Foundation, designed to recognize, support and inspire continued excellence in the art of classic character animation. Plans for the Foundation include scholarships, library resources, touring exhibits, access to film, notes and drawings.

Director Peter Bogdanovich once explained the enduring appeal of Jones' work: "It remains, like all good fables and only the best art, both timeless and universal."

Jones is survived by his wife, Marian, daughter Linda (by his first wife, Dorothy Webster), brother Richard Kent Jones, three grandchildren Todd Kausen, Craig Kausen and Valerie Ericson, and six great-grandchildren, Alex, Brittany, Charley, Jessica, Jake, and Jamie Kausen, as well as by the daughter Rosalin Bellante, son, Peter Dern, and three grandsons, Jason, Scott, and Kevin Bohrer of his wife (by her previous marriage).

Chuck Jones 1912 - 2002

Best known as the creator of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd, Porky Pig and Director of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.



In the Beginning...

Porky Pig

Animation Birthdate: March 2, 1935

First Film Porky Pig Appeared In:

"I Haven't Got a Hat" Directed by Friz Freleng

Daffy Duck

Animation Birthdate: April 17, 1937

First Film Daffy Duck Appeared In:

"Porky's Duck Hunt" Directed By Tex Avery

Elmer Fudd

Animation Birthdate: March 2, 1940

First Film Elmer Fudd Appeared In:

"Elmer's Candid Camera" Directed By Chuck Jones

Bugs Bunny

Animation Birthdate: July 27, 1940

First Film Bugs Bunny Appeared In:

"A Wild Hare" Directed By Tex Avery

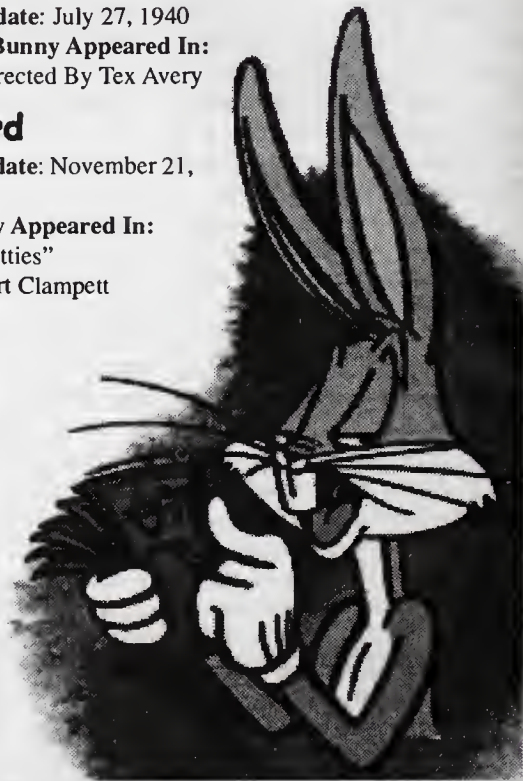
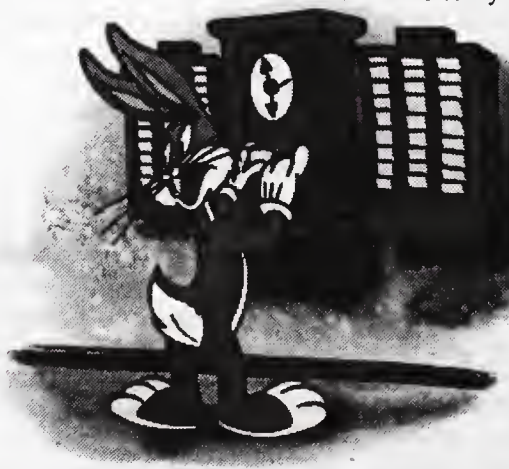
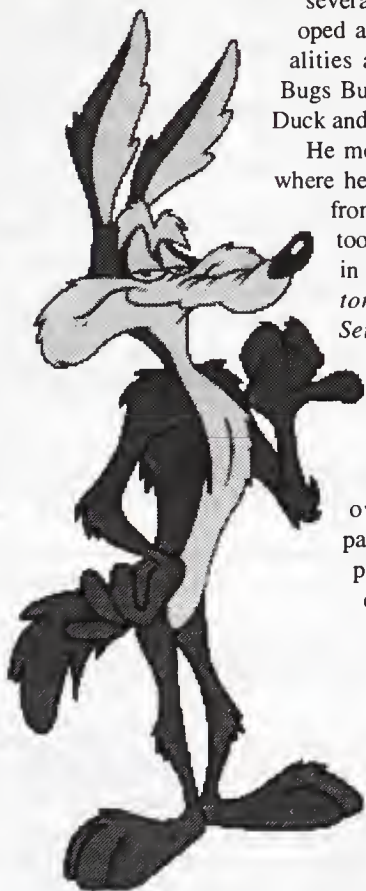
Tweety Bird

Animation Birthdate: November 21, 1942

First Film Tweety Appeared In:

"A Tale of Two Kitties"

Directed By Robert Clampett



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Pub Horoscopes What Kind Of Drink Are You?

Aquarius

J.D. Straight Up - A strong and confident individual, you don't play games and like to tell it like it is. You take an honest approach to life and love and become supremely annoyed by mind games. However, you tend to keep your emotions to yourself and as a result people tend to think of you as closed-off and insensitive. Don't be afraid to let your soft side out around the right people.

Pieces

Whiskey Sour - When others look to you, they see someone who's sophisticated and witty. Simple and understated, you tend to appear cool as a cucumber, but you have a definite zest for life and can really pack a punch! You tend to be thrown from one extreme to another and need to focus on finding middle ground.

Aries

Broken Down Golf Cart - The name conjures up thoughts of a rusted heap lying broken and useless in a watertrap off the 8th hole. Like the drink, you tend to make others think twice before approaching, and even then it's with a certain degree of caution. Try to be more approachable in day to day situations cause given a chance, your sweet self will shine through.

Taurus

Sex On The Beach - Don't get excited, this is not a prediction of how you'll spend the weekend, although I'm sure this is what you'll tell your friends. You like to pretend that you're adventurous and wild but you shy away from situations where you are not in control. Instead of worrying about your rep and pretending that you're up for anything and everything, try sitting back and actually living your life, you may end up really enjoying yourself.

Gemini

Pitcher Of Canadian - Ah yes, a national classic. You're a man's man (or a girl-next-door) and can be found whenever the old crowd gets together. Whether it's kicking back with a pizza and watching the game or getting your groove on at the bars, you're the person everyone calls when they come back to town for the summer. You're very good to your friends and tend to put them first, even before yourself. Stop sacrificing your own life to make others happy. Someday your friends will be busy and you'll be stuck with yourself, make sure you like who you're with.

Cancer

Prairie Fire - Dude, you are a royal pain in the ass yet people keep putting up with you. Why? Not sure, so don't get too comfortable. If your prick-ish ways continue others will not be able to tolerate you for more than a few minutes at a time. Quit with the wicked burns and get with the nice if you want people to keep inviting you to special occasions!

Leo

Rum & Coke - You're the ultimate standby. Always there but never in the limelight, you tend to feel that you merely blend into the crowd but FEAR NOT! Your presence would be missed if you didn't attend your buddy's big party. People rely on you for comfort and security and truly appreciate you even though you don't realize it. Approach life with more confidence and have some fun! Your friends will be there to encourage you.

Virgo

Strawberry Daiquiri - CHICK! You are very in touch with your feminine side. Don't worry, you're not a wimp, you're just more in-tuned to what's going on around you. You take an interest in the little details and tend to see things from other people's perspectives. Instead of just sitting back and being affected by what you observe, go out and DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT! It's one thing to say you care, it's another to act on it.

Libra

Tequilla - You definitely like to party "south of the border" but take heed! In small doses this can be tons-o-fun, truly exhilarating and liberating. You're the GOOD TIME GAL/GUY but in excess you'll find your head spinning as you spiral into a meaningless routine. Make sure everything you do counts for something. Don't let yourself get used.

Scorpio

Singapore Sling - You're fun, you're sweet and you go down easy... at first. With time people begin to see through your routine. Always playing 'nice' you're a very jealous person and secretly resent those who have what you want. You befriend these people in attempts to glean some of whatever they have. Instead of being a fake friend to all, try being a real friend to a few and focus more time on making yourself the kind of person you admire.

Sagittarius

Bailey's - You like luxury and don't hesitate to pamper yourself and those around you. You expect nothing but the best and refuse to settle for less. It's great to have goals and ideals but for Christ sake, be realistic! Dreaming of being in the pages of InStyle is fine, but if you really expect to be wearing Armani and Prada or meeting someone attractive in Sudbury, then you are sadly disillusioned my friend.

Capricorn

Paralyzer - To say you're a complex person would be an understatement. You have so much going on, it makes your head spin! If you don't soon take a well deserved rest you're going to end up getting sick... since your ever busy schedule does not have time for this, think ahead and clear some space for yourself. Try taking a few moments to alone each day and meditate.

From the Diary of Rabid-Squirrel

○ Now Performing on a Streetcorner Near You: Your Spine

Don't you just hate it when you look at the clock and realize that, in a half hour, you're going to have to spend eight whole hours training hedgehogs to perform unspeakable acts to mimes?

Sometimes I hate work.

Actually, the "unspeakable acts to mimes" portion is what keeps me working, apart from the fact that my employers are willing to pay me entirely in sacks full of goats.

And it's not so much the hedgehogs themselves as it is the ASPCA reps that always hang around. Always trying to ensure that the mimes are mauled in "humane fashion". Fortunately, it doesn't take much to fool them into looking the other way — usually a yelp that a *LIVE* maggot somewhere is being fed to a crow, HORROR — at which point I slip the hedgehogs a fifth of Jack Daniels to just get them nice and mean, and then teach them the finer points of combining mockery and quantum mechanics to devastating effect. Yep, it's a rough job, but somebody's gotta do it.

No Benefits, No Pension, but All the Goat Chips You Can Handle. It's So Hard to Find Good Help These Days

○ Wanted: One Henchman (or if you want to be PC, henchperson) to perform various nefarious tasks. Must be able to obey simple commands such as "hit mailman with rock" and "insert irritating neighbor's child into irritating neighbor's woodchipper". Penchant for random destruction a must. Robot Warriors with a past history of rising up and killing their masters need not apply.

Driving Tip #37659263

Even if you run over The Punisher, he will come back for you. Oh yes, he will come back!!!



Thought of the Day...



*Every Time You Masturbate,
God Kills a Kitten
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Time For the nWo to Shake off the Ring Rust

by Hugh Panelas
A&E Editor

I guess I should start off with the obvious. The arrival of the N.W.O. has completely launched the WWF into an area which not even I would have ever thought possible. Hogan, Hall and Nash are here and the problems have already begun.

The first problem is with Scott Hall. One week before the trio even took their first steps into a WWF ring, Hall was running his mouth back stage. He calmly walked up to Bubba Ray Dudley and told him how nice their finishing move was. Hall followed that by stating that he couldn't wait to kick out of it. Hall's past is coming back to bite him as well.

Have you all noticed how his alcoholism has been a running joke with the writers and wrestlers themselves? Sure I thought that the shot he took at himself at No Way Out was funny, but watching Stone Cold constantly harass him about it is making me sick. It's one thing to make a few jokes about it but when that becomes

the constant thing it makes me sick. Yeah, it's ok to laugh at a man that has a problem but then on SmackDown I'll openly drink a bunch of beer and then I'll drive my truck all over the place. That's really not funny at all.

There's a reason why Kevin Nash doesn't have a match scheduled as of yet for WrestleMania. The WWF really has no faith in Hall and are afraid that if his antics continue they might end up firing him. If Hall does get canned then Nash will be put in his place. If Hall manages to behave then look for Nash to get a last minute feud started with someone.

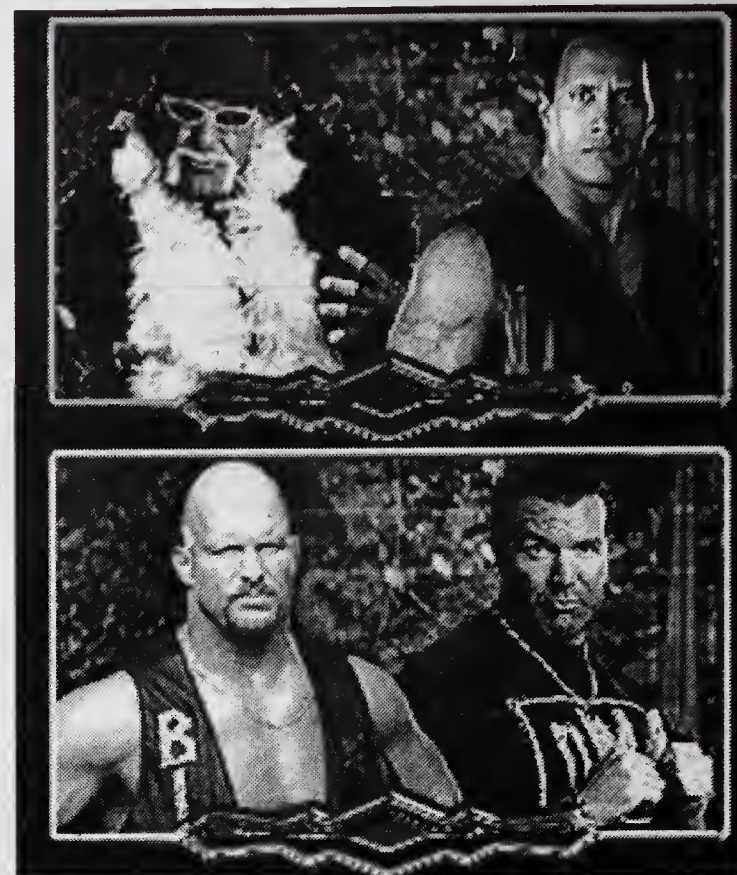
The only really positive member of the N.W.O. has been the only member that I haven't talked about and that is Hulk Hogan. Hogan has impressed everyone backstage as he has been associating with everyone and has been great on the mic. I'm sure you all saw his promo with the Rock. Just seeing and hearing Hogan

in a WWF ring talking about why he left and what has happened to his career was enough to send shivers down my spine. The Rock even impressed me by showing the respect he did for the immortal one. They worked so well together I think the WWF realizes that they should have brought Hogan back a lot sooner. I haven't been so excited about a Hogan match since he was paired with the Ultimate Warrior. The energy that was flowing through the crowd was indescribable. I loved the Rock's face when the 'Hogan' chants took over his 'Rocky' chants. Whoever thought that Hulk was washed up and that the fans would never react to him got a kick to the junk on that night. The SkyDome will be divided much like it was 12 years ago. What are my predictions? I feel that Hogan will in fact beat the Rock at WrestleMania and here's why.

Hogan has only lost at one WrestleMania and that was one of the top three matches in WrestleMania history. He has already lost in the SkyDome and past all of that there's no way his comeback match will be a loss. Will it be a clean win? I doubt it. It might even be a DQ or a count-out. A win is a win and Hogan will take the match. However, look for the Rock to win the re-match the next night on RAW.

I have some bad news for you all out there. The main event for the title might not be just HHH and Jericho. The WWF is actually thinking of making it a 3-way by adding Kurt Angle to the mix. The idea has been tossed around but no one knows for sure what to do. On SmackDown the WWF flirted with an Angle/Kane feud which seemed to go over with the crowd, but if Jericho starts to slack off look for Angle to be added to the match. Talk about losing faith in the so-called undisputed champion. Or maybe it's the fact that Jericho looks like a small 12 year old boy next to Hunter.

Let's move on to other subjects. For those of you who are regular readers of the on-line house show reports you know about a few of the up and coming stars that will be making their way to the WWF after WrestleMania. I am speaking of the young guys that are wrestling dark matches for RAW and SmackDown. Have you wondered what these guys look like or when they might be heading up from the minors? If so you need to go to www.ovwrestling.com. That is the official website for Ohio Valley Wrestling, basically the main minor league system for the WWF.



It's pretty cool to be able to take an early look at the WWF's future talent. Well that and you can take a good laugh at those who aren't ever going to make it.

I hate to jump all over the place but I have a couple of major complaints that have been running through my mind since the last time I wrote an article.

Usually I never get to watch SmackDown and I just end up reading the reports Tuesday night but I had the chance to catch the show a couple of times over the past few weeks. I was lucky enough to go to the taping in Toronto in September and I was upset then at paying \$50 to watch the screens because it was 75% talking. I have now realized that SmackDown is always 75% talking. I never thought that I would say this but I honestly wasted 2 hours of my life, twice. Sure, we saw an assault on the N.W.O. by Austin, but it was filled with a bunch of pointless and time wasting clips of Hogan and Nash hiding. We also saw Chuck and Billy win the tag titles. Do Spike and Tazz really deserve to be on such a highly-watched show? They could have saved that one for Heat. SmackDown is just a bunch of crap. Nothing ever happens and even the main event is cut short. Oops, I forgot. The HHH/Undertaker match never happened because Taker drove away. Oh well, I guess we got to see their entrances, right? My little brother has been saving his allowance to buy a ticket to the

SmackDown in Ottawa and he was all happy about getting ready to get one and I told him that he'd be wasting his money. I told him to either wait for RAW to come back or wait until the next house show because he'll see more stars and better matches.

Another complaint that I have is how TSN decides to once again bump wrestling for another 'sport'. Did we not get stuck having to watch RAW at all kinds of weird hours because of the Olympics? That was bad enough. I sat down to watch RAW at midnight on Monday because I was unable to watch the 9-11 show. Hey, some things are definitely more important and better than wrestling. I turn the TV on, get my tape ready and what do I see? Curling. Yup, that's right, I said curling. First of all who the hell watches curling from midnight to 2am? I thought TSN stands for The Sports Network? Curling is a game, not a sport. Sure, there is skill involved but it is more strategy. Monopoly takes strategy too but they don't show anyone playing that. After swearing a little I see that I can watch RAW again this week, on Wednesday night 12am-2am. Ok, thanks a lot TSN. Why can't they put it on at a better time you ask? That's right, because of the curling. It's bad enough that us wrestling fans had to get our show preempted because of a bunch of bad Olympic sports but now we get it pushed out because of a game. Oh well, I guess we'll never win.

Superhero Movie Nitpicks

Hugh Panelas
A&E Editor

Since we have decided to go with the whole super hero theme this month I feel that it is only fair if I also take that road with this week's nitpicks. Here is a list of nitpicks from some of the most popular super.

Batman

1. When Batman calls for the batmobile it starts and drives by itself. In one of the front shots a hand can be seen on the steering wheel.

2. The Joker challenges Batman to fight him one-on-one. The Joker says, "I've taken off my make-up; let's see you take off yours." When he says this his skin is fleshtone. As shown earlier in the movie the Joker's skin is actually pure white. Fleshtone is the color of his make-up. He was wearing make-up when he made that statement.

3. In the beginning of the movie at the newspaper place everyone is making fun of Knox about the whole Batman thing. One guy hands Knox a drawing of some sort of half bat half man picture. At the bottom of the drawing you can see it is signed by the recently departed Batman creator Bob Kane.

Superman

1. When Superman is standing on the side of the building to catch the falling cat burglar his cape doesn't hang towards the ground. It hangs toward the building as if he was standing on ground.

2. When Superman and Lois Lane fly over Metropolis on their first date the special effects are seriously wrong. The camera shows Superman and Lois from above. In that scene when you look at the traffic below you can see the cars are driving backwards. The headlights are going the wrong way.

3. As Luthor explains his master plan to Superman, Otis is holding the two glass panels that represent the San Andreas Fault line and the "New West Coast". The San Andreas Panel is put down first and then we see Otis laying the "New West Coast" on top a few minutes later. The camera pulls back and shows Superman, Otis and Luthor standing for the duration of Luthor's speech. As Luthor smashes the panel with his pointer to show where "Target Zero" is, we see that it is the San Andreas panel and not the "New West Coast" panel which was never removed.



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Let the Music Do the Talking... Reviews by Mat



Bright Midnight - The Doors Live

by Mat

I guess when the selection of music today gets so low that there is no where else to turn, Rhino Records delves back into the past to find another lost, but not forgotten grouping of songs to release to ease the minds of the record buyers. Most of the time they resurrect bands like the B-52s or David Lee Roth, but for once they have done something right. This time around, Rhino Records has put together a collection of live recordings from rock legends The Doors.

The Doors had to be one of the most innovative bands of their time. Their songs challenged the norm and made people pay attention to music, especially the lyrics, in a time when music didn't mean that much. Jim Morrison brought his thoughts, ideas and words to the people through new rock that still hits its mark today.

Bright Midnight is a great collection of thirteen live tracks ranging from The Doors' more popular tracks to a few less known tunes, buried under the big hitters.

Each track on the album is from a different venue across the United States ranging from Philadelphia, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Hollywood, New York, Bakersfield and a few others in between.

The album includes the usual big three: *Light My Fire*, *Break On Through* and *Touch Me*. All these tracks are even better live. You can hear the emotion and genius of Morrison in every track. Also included on the album are some other popular tracks like *Roadhouse Blues*, *Baby Please Don't Go* and the classic psycho-ballad *The End* along with some less popular tracks like *Been Down So Long*, *Back Door Man*, *The Crystal Ship*, *Bellowing*, *Alabama Sing* and a few others.

What makes this album such a great collection is not only that it is live, but it is a collection of tracks that you would not really expect. Sure, as I stated you do get the usual big hits, but it is the smaller hits that really impressed me. It's not hard to find a live recording of *Light My Fire*, but some of the others are so rare live that you may never hear them live anywhere else.

Bright Midnight is a Limited Edition CD, so fans of The Doors will have to hurry to find this title and get it before it disappears. The album is so clear that it is like you stepped into the middle of The Doors performing live. If you can't find this title at a music store here in Sudbury, I really recommend ordering it online. Fans of The Doors will not be disappointed at all. This is probably the best collection, besides the double *Greatest Hits* album, that you can get for The Doors today. Don't miss out!



Mary J Blige - No More Drama

by Mat

No, I am not insane. I know I already reviewed this album, but for some reason MCA has decided to re-release the album with four new tracks on it. I guess they want you to buy the tracks instead of downloading them... good luck!

If you have already purchased this album, don't bother with the new re-release. All you get new is the Young & The Restless rip-off *Rainy Dayz* feat. Ja Rule, quasi-dance track *Dance for Me* feat. Common, a *No More Drama* remix feat. P. Diddy and some other track. Four new tracks and they expect people to shell out another \$20? This is just a cash grab that I hope no one really falls for.

Like I said, if you have the original Mary J Blige album *No More Drama*, hold on to it. The new tracks are not that good and are not worth spending the extra money on!



Adam's Rib - Forever Café

by Mat

Now this is what Canadian music is all about. Toronto's own Adam's Rib is one of those bands that it couldn't be more obvious that they were Canadian if they sang about hockey and beer.

Forever Café is the bands first release on the newly formed Tin House Records label, and it captures the down-home, Canadian, acoustic guitar driven rock music that most bands forget when they hit it big. Tracks like *Thinking About This*, *We'd Be Together* and *She Talks* are the type of songs you would hear in a home town bar by a crowd favorite. They change their sound a little with the more studio style tracks *Kaleidoscope* and *Witching Hour*, but they still hold that sound that makes people feel like they have just discovered a secret band in a small café, playing just for them.

Forever Café is what Canadian bar music should be. Adam's Rib may not be that big, but they are better than our more mainstream Canadian acts. You can check them out online at AdamsRib.ca.



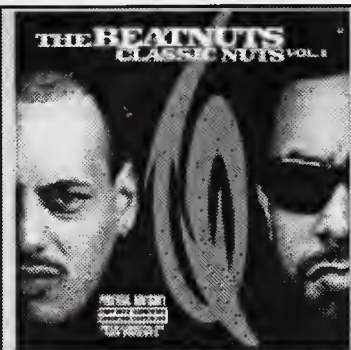
Ultimate Manilow

by Mat

"Her Name Was Lola, she was a showgirl. With Yellow feathers in her hair, and her dress cut down to there..." Don't pretend you don't know the words. Every person who has ever been drunk and entered a karaoke bar has either belted out *Copacabana*, or at least thought about doing it.

The only really good thing about this album is that it ends. I have no idea whose idea it was to try and resurrect the songs of Barry Manilow, but they should be dragged into the street and shot! Tracks like *I Write the Songs*, *Mandy*, *It Could be Magic* and more should be destroyed, never to be heard by human ears again.

The album, if you actually care, features 20 tracks that at some point or another a record producer had to think, what the hell are we paying this guy for? I am all for retro and flashback, but I am also all for the severe beating of all Barry Manilow fans. Hell, I'll take *No Doubt* any day over this stuff... well... maybe I won't go to that extreme, but I think you get my point!



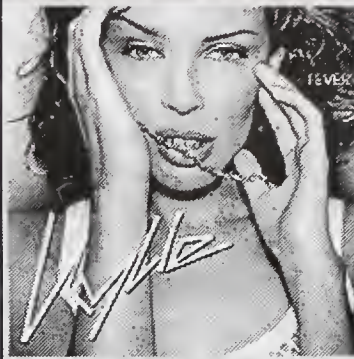
The Beatnuts - Classic Nuts Vol. 1

by Mat

I always thought that this group only had one track that was popular, but I guess they have at least recorded twelve tracks that can be considered the best, or The Beatnuts *Classic Nuts*.

The thing about the Beatnuts is they have a great funky sound underlying their rap/hip hop tracks that make them stand out. *Watch Out Now* has been their biggest track, but tracks like *Get Funky*, *Se Acabo Remix*, *Turn it Out* and *We Got The Funk* all really show why this band deserve a *Classic Nuts* album. *We Got the Funk* seems to be a modern style answer to George Clinton and is a great modern funk track.

Although Beatnuts is a little different from the mainstream dance floor favorites, they are worth checking out. *Classic Nuts* really shows off the Beatnuts true talent and their very definitive sound. Check out *Classic Nuts Vol.1*. It is one of those dance/hip hop albums you need to have in your collection!



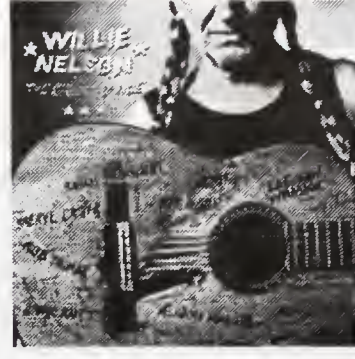
Kylie Minogue

by Mat

Do we really need another aging pop icon? It's bad enough that Cher won't go away, but now we have the return of Australian soap star Kylie Minogue.. Return you say? Yes. Many of you may not be old enough to remember *The Locomotion*, or her starring role in *Street Fighter*, but Kylie has been around longer than most.

In the latest album *Kylie*, Ms. Minogue jumps full tilt into the pop/dance hall genre that makes all the little ravers go crazy and the rest of us search for *The Black Album* (if you don't know... don't ask). Just take the already overplayed *Can't Get You Out Of My Head* and you will know exactly what you are in store for with this album. Sure, the songs have a great beat to dance to, but maybe she should have thought about getting more than just one beat for all the tracks.

Kylie is just as new and different as J-Lo, Britney, Cher and all the other belles of the ball. *Kylie* can be skipped and your life will still be complete. At least you still have all those Britney downloads!



Willie Nelson - The Great Divide

by Mat

I'm not the biggest country fan, but this album really interested me when I received it. Instead of your typical country album, *The Great Divide* mixes old school country with some modern sounds including country, rock and alternative.

The Great Divide has such a great mix of songs written and performed by not only Willie Nelson, but also some pretty big names from the world of popular music.

This album has such an interesting blend of music that a true music fan can really get a lot of pleasure out of the tracks. From the slow country ballads, to the more upbeat rock tracks, to the middle of the road country/rock tracks, there is something for everyone on this album all mixed together by the easily recognizable voice of Willie Nelson.

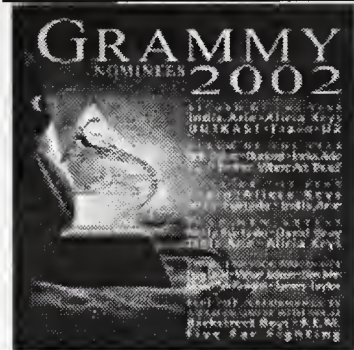
Be There For You is a great duet with Sheryl Crow which is a slower roots rock-style track that is more dependent on the artists than the song itself. The track is borderline country, but is not so hardcore as *You Remain*, with Bonnie Raitt, and *Mendocino County Line*, with LeeAnn Womack. The country tracks are what Willie excels in, though the solo tracks like *The Great Divide* and *This Face* are where it seems that Willie and his guitar really stand out.

A few other tracks of interest include *Maria* and *Won't Catch Me Cryin'* which were written for Willie by superstar piggy backer Rob Thomas. All of a sudden Rob's career is riding on the coattails of legends, and luckily it is working out for him.

Another track that really stands out, I'm not sure if it is in a good way or not yet, is Willie's take on the Cindi Lauper classic *Time After Time*. When Willie sings of a "suitcase of memories", you can truly believe he has a lot of luggage to carry around from his years on the road.

My favorite track on the album has to be *Last Stand in Open Country* with Kid Rock. This is the perfect duet as Willie and Kid Rock both bridge the gap between country and rock. They are both rockers at heart, but they are country through and through. The vocals of the men mix just as well as the country and electric guitars that they are playing.

The Great Divide may not be the first album in people's minds when they are heading to the music store, but if you get a chance to check it out you will surely want to pick it up. I thought at first that this album would be a joke, but in the end, I have listened to it a few times and I will keep on listening to it. Although he has been around forever, Willie Nelson has once again pulled off another great album in *The Great Divide*.



Grammy Nominees 2002

by Mat

They should really release these albums featuring specific styles of music. The Grammy Awards are notorious for nominating not only the popular music of the time, but also old-timers who have some sort of small comeback. Just like years past, this album is a strange mix of everything out there with no real connector.

This year the album features India Arie, Alicia Keys, Nelly Furtado, Outkast, Craig David, Brian McKnight and the Backstreet Boys. Of course this is a great blend of popular music, but Elton John, Bob Dylan, James Taylor and The Soggy Bottom Boys are mixed in to mess up the groove. Train, U2, REM and Five for Fighting slow things down, but like the old-timers, don't blend well.

These *Grammy Nominees* albums are a waste of time. The songs are good, but the way they are put together in this format doesn't really work. It's like a burnt CD from that creepy guy down the hall who never leaves his room! Very easy to skip!

What Would You Do If Pushed to Your Limits?

Denzel Washington Shows us the Limits of the Human Soul in John Q

by Mat Thompson
Editor In Chief

If you were a parent and you found out that due to a fatal heart condition, your only son was going to die without a heart transplant, would you opt for the operation? Of course, anyone would. But what if you had no health insurance and you had to come up with over a quarter of a million dollars to cover the hospital fees as soon as possible or the hospital will discharge your son, leaving him to die in your arms at home? Its a situation that no one would want to be in, but **Denzel Washington** is forced to deal with in the new movie *John Q*.

I will warn everyone who is thinking about seeing this movie that you will need to bring a lot of tissues with you to make it through this movie. If there was ever a tearjerker on the big screen, this is one! Unless you have a heart of stone, you will be moved in some way throughout this entire movie.

Academy Award Winner (*Glory*) and Nominee (*Training Day*) **Denzel Washington** plays John Q, a regular man trying to support his family with whatever work he can find. John is a very laid back man who seems to deal with all situations with cool ease. His wife on the other hand, although a loving mother and wife, pushes John at every turn, forcing him to do something to fix whatever problem arises.

One day at a baseball game, John's son collapses stealing second. After arriving at the hospital the couple is told that their son's heart may not last another month due to severe damage and defect. They are told of their options for surgery by the resident heart surgeon (**James Woods**), then quickly told by hospital administrator Anne Heche that they are not covered and they will have to pay cash for the operation. John raises as much money as possible, but when he is told that his payment of over thirty thousand dollars will not be enough to keep his child in the hospital, he finally snaps and takes James

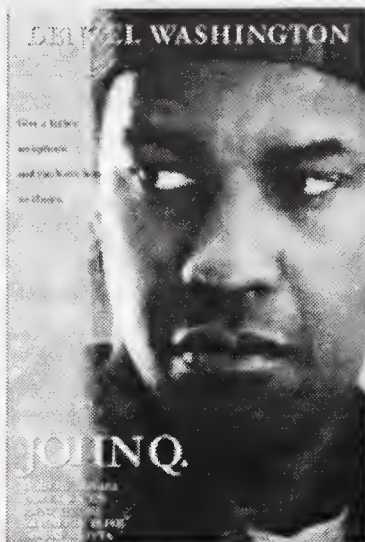
Woods and a small group of emergency room staff and patients hostage with only one demand... his son's name on the heart donor list.

As his son's condition worsens, John faces off with a sympathetic detective (**Robert Duval**), a glory hungry police chief (**Ray Liota**) and a crowd of every day people who support his actions during the hostage situation. He also has to come to grips with what he has done, what could happen as well as what may happen if his son does not get a donor heart that matches in every way.

This is the type of movie that is strong in both the story and acting areas. The story is really solid. There is nothing that is done in this move that a regular person would not do if faced with the same circumstances. Denzel does not play a father any different from the millions of loving fathers around the world. He has no special powers, attributes or skills other than the love he has for his own child. There is nothing unbelievable about the story other than how much of a bitch Anne Heche's character is.

All the actors do amazing jobs in this movie. Denzel gives another Oscar caliber performance which I think is much better than his other acclaimed movies (*Malcolm X*, *Glory*, *Training Day*) as he plays the most realistic role possible. I dare anyone to try to get through the scene in which Denzel talks to his son for what could be the last time. He packs more emotion and reality into three minutes than most actors can hope to do in their entire career.

Robert Duval and **James Woods** play their typical roles, immersing themselves into the character to make them as realistic as possible. Both do excellent jobs in this movie. Another great role is that of the chief of police by **Ray Liota** (*Goodfellas*, *Unlawful Entry*). With his usual psychotic edge, Ray comes across as the biggest prick police chief possible. His interaction with **Robert Duval** makes for a great cinematic pairing.



Although I can't stand her in most movies, **Anne Heche** has to be commended for her role in *John Q*. Fresh off her real-life psychotic episode where she thought she was the daughter of Jesus and she needed to meet a space craft in the desert to take her to heaven and beyond, Anne pulls off the best bitch hospital administrator role since Nurse Rachett in *Cuckoo's Nest*. Her lack of emotion and sheer stone cold stare makes for the perfect villain to hate in a movie like this.

John Q is an amazingly structured drama that is far superior to most movies that are being released today. I hope that next year's Oscar nominations remember this movie, but you never know what *Russell Crowe* will do in the next ten months. *John Q* is a realistic drama that no one should miss. The acting is superb, the story is emotional powerful and any movie goer will remember this movie for a long time. Don't miss this one!

One funny thing to note is that *John Q* was filmed in Canada almost two years ago. The hospital that John Q takes over is a Canadian hospital where this type of this could never happen as we, unlike the United States, have a national health care system that covers this type of emergency operation. It's damn fine to be a Canadian!

Get Ready For ROLLER-CRAP

by Mat Thompson
Editor In Chief

I have been looking forward to this movie for a while now. As a fan of the original *Rollerball* starring **James Caan**, I thought that an updated version by the same people who brought us *Fast and the Furious* would be a great thing. I just didn't know that the great thing that they produced was a great big steaming pile of crap!

To quickly run down the story, **Chris Klein** (*American Pie 1&2*) stars as Jonathan, a wanna-be NHL star who goes overseas and becomes the biggest thing in the renegade leagues of Rollerball. As the owner of the entire Rollerball league, played by **Jean Reno** (*The Professional*, *Mission Impossible*), starts taking the game to more and more extreme levels to garner worldwide television rights, Jonathan and his teammates/friends try to not only survive, but get out of the country and out of the grip of *Rollerball*.

I know, it doesn't sound that bad, but it is! The casting is the first problem that this movie has. **Chris Klein** has about the same sex appeal and screen presence as Rain Man. The reason they put him the role of a clueless half-wit has to be that he is one! I have seen interviews with him and he is the same as his characters... big and dumb.

Instead of hiring guys who could actually be seen as extreme sports heroes, the producers decided to go with **LL Cool J**, **Rebecca Romijn-Stamos** and **Oleg Tartikof** (UFC). This the most star power that the movie has. The rest of the players are just nobodies on rollerblades.

I even have to complain about the casting of **Paul Heyman** (ECW's *Paul E. Dangerously*) as the English announcer for *Rollerball*. He is fine when I am watching wrestling on Monday nights, but in a movie like this, Paul adds tot he level of crap that seems never ending.

The way the movie is put together is like a bad sports music video on speed. Unless you have any clue as to the rules of game play from the original movie, there is no way for a person to understand the game of Rollerball. There are more close-ups on **Chris Klein** than there is game play. If you are gong to base a movie on a futuristic sport, you should make sure that the audience understands the game or they will not enjoy the movie.

The dramatic internal struggle in which Jonathan must choose to leave Rollerball to save his own life, or stay for the love of **Rebecca Romijn-Stamos** is the movie's only attempt at a real story. Of course the dumb-ass chooses to leave the supermodel behind, and ends up right back on the rink. Moron!

Rollerball seems to be a comment on the state of sports and entertainment and their inevitable emergence beyond the world of professional wrestling. The only problem is the movie comes across as an attempt to glorify violence and bad acting. This movie is one of the worst movies I have ever spent money on. The original is in video stores and is worth seeing, but this version is just pathetic! The only good thing about this movie is that they don't let WWF co-owner **Shane McMahon** speak. We can be thankful for small miracles.

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FAMOUS PLAYERS



The Anti-Heroes

Hugh Panelas
Gore Freak!

Since we at Lambda decided to do a feature on super heroes I have done my best to figure out a way that I can contribute. As a child I was not a big fan of the mainstream comic books. In fact the only comics that I would purchase would be the horror comics that were in the discount bin at a small shop in Trenton, Ontario. I had all kinds of them and none of their pages featured any spandex wearing people running about the world trying to save it from some catastrophe.

As a result of this childhood reflection, I felt that it was only appropriate that I came up with a list of my super heroes. After all, a super hero is a person that is supposed to make you smile, make you happy, make you feel all kinds of different emotions. That is what these horror icons do for me. Let me make this quite clear for all you people out there, *IN NO WAY SHAPE OR FORM DO I CONDONE THE KILLING OF INDIVIDUALS FOR ANY REASON WHATSOEVER. I ALSO WOULD NOT WANT TO SEE THE EVENTS THAT ARE DEPICTED IN THESE FILMS ACTUALLY HAPPEN.* You can't have a super hero without a villain and believe me these are the cream of the crop in the land of horror. I'd really like to see what Batman would do against Jason or how useless Spiderman's web would be against Pinhead. Oh well I guess we'll never know.

For all of you non-super hero fans out there, I give you...

Chucky

Origin

Charles Lee Ray was a serial killer and an expert in black magic. He transferred his soul into a "Good Guy" doll in order to escape death and capture by the police. Now that he is trapped, he must get out of the doll because the longer he stays in it, the more human he becomes.

Chucky must possess the body of the first person whom he revealed his true self to, 6 year old Andy Barclay. If he doesn't, then Chucky will remain a doll for all time.

Powers

Chucky is well experienced in the arts of black magic and can transfer his soul to the person that knows the truth of his existence. He also has the ability to fool people into believing that he is a real "Good Guy" doll. That's how he moves around from place to place to find Andy.

Weapon of Choice

Chucky uses an assortment of objects to kill his victims but he prefers to use a carving knife. That's also what he is most associated with.

Ways to Kill Chucky

Destroying the doll that Chucky possess is a good start, but his soul hangs around, and since the dolls are still getting produced, he can always possess another doll.

The longer that Chucky is in the doll the more human he becomes so that can be used against him. Using any normal method of killing will work as he becomes more human.

Total Body Count

Chucky is responsible for 24 deaths in the Child's Play Series.

Films

- Child's Play 1-3
- Bride of Chucky



Pinhead

Origin

Captain Elliot Spencer, like his other army members, was extremely depressed and lost after the war ended. While most of his friends turned to the bottle he turned to a world of darkness and forbidden pleasures.

After coming into possession of the infamous puzzle box Spencer opened the box and the evil inside found his own and turned him into Pinhead, a demon guardian of hell.

The only way for Pinhead to be released into the world is if someone solves the puzzle and opens the box. In this case only are the innocent truly safe.

Powers

Once the box is opened Pinhead and his Cynobites are free. Generally the person that solves the box wants to experience Hell.

Weapon of Choice

Pinhead uses chains that have hooks on the end of them in order to rip apart and torture his victims.

Ways to Kill Pinhead

There isn't any way to kill Pinhead as long as Hell exists. Pinhead is a demon. The only way to keep him at bay is to not solve the puzzle and by not opening the box. The box is the key to Hell and when it is solved, Pinhead can come through the gate.

Total Body Count

Pinhead is responsible for 26 deaths over the Hellraiser series.

Films

- Hellraiser 1-3
- Hellraiser: Bloodline
- Hellraiser: Inferno
- Hellraiser: Hellseeker (2002 DVD/VHS release)

Freddy Krueger

Origin

Freddy began his murderous spree in Springwood, Ohio in the 1960's. It was during this time that he became a serial child murderer. The police eventually arrested Freddy but someone failed to sign a search warrant and he was freed on that technicality.

As a result of the police department's mistake the parents of the children took justice into their own hands. They trapped Freddy and burned him alive.

While Freddy's surroundings were going up in flames the three dream demons approached him and offered him their powers because he was the most vulgar person that they could find. He accepted and thus can come back from the dead.

Powers

Freddy has the ability to come into your dreams and can take the form of your worst nightmare. Generally he appears to you in his regular form, a red striped sweater, a dirty brown hat, and his glove.

After killing the children of the people that burned him to death he used Kristin (A Nightmare on Elm Street 4: The Dream Master) to bring him more teenagers. Eventually he had to use his daughter to bring him out of Springwood and into other towns. The key here is that if you die in the dream you die in reality.

Weapon of Choice

When Freddy was alive he had an assortment of killing gloves. In death he prefers his self made, right-handed glove that has 4 knives welded to the ends of the fingers.

Ways to Kill Freddy

Many different ways have been used to try to kill Freddy and they include not believing in him, holy water, burying him, free the children's trapped souls and taking his power away but none of these seem too effective. The only way to get the job done is to pull him out of the dream world into reality and kill him like you would any normal human being.

Total Body Count

Freddy Krueger is responsible for 31 deaths over the course of the Nightmare on Elm Street series.

Films

- A Nightmare on Elm Street 1-5
- Freddy's Dead: The Final Nightmare
- Wes Craven's New Nightmare
- A Nightmare on Elm Street 8: Freddy's History (2002 release)



No Picture Available

SUPERHEROES OF THE UNDERWORLD



Jason Voorhees

Origin

While at Camp Crystal Lake Jason tried to go swimming to prove to himself and everyone else that he could do it and he ended up drowning. No camp councillors knew what Jason was up to because the two councillors that were on duty were engaged in physical contact.

Jason's mother avenges his death by killing the new camp councillors when the camp re-opens years after Jason's death. After his mother is killed on the beaches of Camp Crystal Lake, Jason returns from the dead to avenge her death.

Powers

Jason has super strength that no one on earth could ever possibly imagine equalling. When someone does manage to strike him down he seems to rest for a few minutes and then gets right back up. It's like he recharges and then continues his killing. Jason also seems to have the ability to catching victims that are running away from him, simply by walking after them.

Weapon of Choice

Jason uses anything that he can get his hands on and he isn't afraid of using his bare hands either. However, Jason is most commonly associated with the machete as it seems to be his favourite tool of destruction.

Ways to Kill Jason

While you might be able to confuse Jason with articles that belonged to his mother (for example her head and sweater), not too many things will actually work against this super-human. People have tried drowning him in both water and toxic waste and have even used his own machete to cut him but that only keeps Jason down for a short period of time.

The only way to kill Jason is to destroy his heart and only another Voorhees can do so. Jason was born by a Voorhees, can be re-born by a Voorhees and can only be killed by a Voorhees.

Total Body Count

Jason is responsible for 191 deaths over the Friday the 13th Series

Films

- Friday the 13th Parts 1-7
- Jason Goes to Hell: The Final Friday
- Jason X (2002 release)

Michael Myers

Origin

On Hallowe'en night 1963 in Haddonfield, Ill Michael kills his sister in her bedroom with a knife that he takes from the kitchen. No one knows why Michael would perform such an act but later it is found that he is with Thorn.

Thorn is a demon that spreads sickness and has brought death to thousands of people. Celtic legend says that one child from each tribe is selected to be inflicted with the curse of Thorn. The infected child is supposed to offer blood sacrifices of their next of kin on the night of Sam Hein (Hallowe'en). It is believed that the sacrifice of one family will spare the lives of an entire tribe.

The Thorn symbol is also a constellation of stars that appears on Hallowe'en night. Whenever the symbol appears Michael appears as well.

Powers

Like Jason, Michael is also blessed with super strength. Michael is also like Jason in that he can also catch his victims that are running away from him by maintaining a slow, methodical pace.

Michael also seems to have an uncanny sense of knowing where his family members are at all times no matter how far away they are. If for whatever reason he doesn't know, he just has to read it in a file or something of that nature.

Weapon of Choice

Michael uses anything that he feels can get the job done and he also isn't afraid of using his bare hands. Usually he is associated with a carving knife.

Ways to Kill Michael

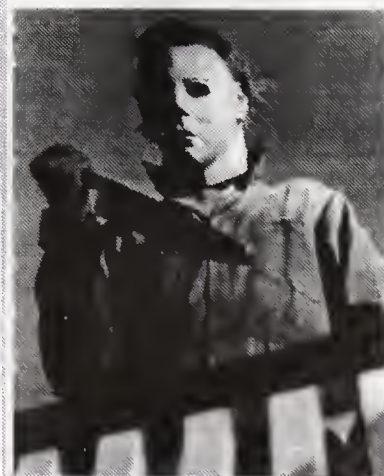
People have tried shooting him, blowing him up, drugging him and even locking him up in an institution. It must be Michael's next of kin that kills him. Anything else simply just slows him down.

Total Body Count

Michael is responsible for 75 human deaths and 4 dog deaths over the Hallowe'en series.

Films

- Hallowe'en 1-6
- Hallowe'en H20
- Hallowe'en Homecoming (2002 release)



So You Want to Be a Superhero

by Nick "Porno Mime" Stewart
Assistant Crimefighter-in-Chief

Are you interested in the fast-moving, forward-thinking industry of crimefighting? Do you like wearing spandex tights? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, then you could be well on your way to becoming a Superhero! Just take a look at the handy-dandy WeHateYou, Inc.'s Guide to Becoming a Superhero and send \$800 to the WeHateYou, Inc. head offices, and you'll receive your Official Crimefighting Licence, without which you'll be arrested and big mean men will do nasty things to you in prison, such as forcing you to read Ayn Rand. So sit back, get ready to becoming a icon of good, and read:

WeHateYou, Inc.'s Guide to Becoming a Superhero!

1. Origin

This is important, because it's going to define the reason that you'll be kicking ridiculous amounts of bad guy ass. For this reason, it's almost always going to have be tragic; sorry, but saying "I just like fighting evil" just ain't gonna cut it at the Superhero Dinner Party. No, something bad has to happen, like a horrible tragedy involving death, tragic life-altering accidents or a random discovery of some scientific or otherworldly device that will change your entire being. For this reason, you're not going to have a choice about being a superhero; it just has to happen. Sorry, but it's true; very, very few superheroes are self-created, since killing someone or causing a horrible accident would make you a supervillain, and going out of your way to try and change your body with science or alien technology is always guaranteed to go terribly wrong, disfiguring you and driving you mad. Or, if you're part of the Marvel universe, you just have to be a mutant

of some kind. Whether it's through extra-terrestrials, radiation, evolution, chemicals, vampires, nanotechnology, math, cybernetics, divine intervention, bad spinach, whatever. If it's Marvel, odds are that you're a mutant, and that's that.

ADDED NOTE: Don't constantly remind people about your origin. Not only will it get on people's nerves in very short order, but it makes you look like a self-centered jerk.

2. Powers & Tools

Now, this is tricky, since you don't have much of a choice over what your powers are. Yeap, your powers are often defined by your origin, and since you have no control over your origin, you're stuck with whatever you get. That means that if your power is to be able to breathe underwater and swap manly stories with various species of fish, leaving you to pray that some evildoers will start conducting crime in the middle of the ocean, well, them's the breaks. It should be noted that your power must be sufficiently impressive to effectively fight crime, or else you're just going to end up a joke the other superheroes tell behind your back. For instance, have the ability to curse really loudly might be great at parties, but it's not going to stop the Screaming Manboy from unleashing his Androgynoxious Gas on you. Also, merely being able to fly isn't good enough. Most superheroes can at least fly, so you better be sure you have something better than that to slap onto your Superhero Team application form. (Example: Hawkman was routinely sent on the most useless missions by the Superfriends). Being able to fire rays from body parts is good, though if they emit from anywhere but your hands or eyes, you might as well skip the endless taunting and just start off as a supervillain right off the bat.

If your origin failed to provide you with substantive powers, then you should definitely plan on getting a good job; you're going to need to develop expensive tools and gadgets, and they don't pay for themselves. Owning a super-corporation is good, though becoming a doctor or lawyer is also acceptable. In a pinch, you can also become a scientist of some kind, as it will also provide you with access to free materials (though you need to be careful so as not to experiment on humans, which is guaranteed to fail at some point, providing you with an archenemy). Keep in mind that it's a standard rule to set up shop only in an area where there are no heroes with cooler powers than your own. Learn from Batman, who made the mistake of joining the Superfriends. He was often forced to spend entire episodes tak-

ing out a single bad guy while Superman could wipe out hordes of foes, go for a snack, taunt Hawkman, and still be back before the commercial break. As a result, Batman looked like a moron, and so could you if you're not careful.

Transportation is another factor that cannot be ignored; nothing is more humiliating than having to catch a cab or bus to travel to the scene of a supervillainous crime. For this reason, you're going to have to develop a way of making dramatic entrances; hoverships or jets are encouraged, provided that they can do something like turn invisible, fire rockets, or glow menacingly. Cars can only be used as a last resort, and even then, they should be sentient or loaded with enough gadgetry to choke a cybernetic superhorse.

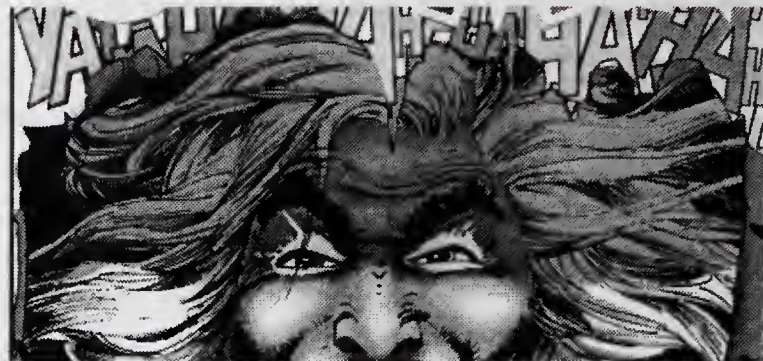
3. Weaknesses

You might be wondering why any superhero in their right mind would willingly choose a weakness. Well, for starters, your vulnerabilities can help to create tension at key points in time, which will not work for you but will definitely boost your public approval ratings. Or, if you're part of the DC stable, you don't have much of a choice in this particular decision, as weaknesses are mandatory. There's not much to picking a weakness, but keep in mind that you should pick something extravagant and bizarre. Vulnerability to alien substances, primary colors, or small furry things is good; it doesn't matter, so long as it's not something that would harm an average person. Few things are more embarrassing than being five steps away from collaring the Ninja Gorillas of Earth-X and then failing because you're left crying on the floor after being shot in the leg by some old lady who thinks you're trying to steal her porcelain monkey heads.

ADDED NOTE: While your weakness will eventually become somewhat common knowledge in the criminal world, you shouldn't go out of your way to advertise it. For example, Green Lantern still hasn't learned to not advertise his vulnerability to all things yellow. In fact, he tends to bring it up at least six times per conversation, and yet he still acts surprised when his enemies roll into the harbor with gigantic and surprisingly lethal yellow fungo bats. Moral of the Story: Be quiet about your weaknesses. Don't be a feeb like Green Lantern.

4. Costuming

The appropriate attire is crucial to the proper functioning of a superhero, as it's the first thing that the average joe or evildoer will see, and it's important that your appearance commands attention and respect, not laughter (see the Rainbow Raider on how NOT to dress). This



means that scarves, hot pants and silly hats are all out (example: Hawkman, Flash and Captain America all feature ridiculous headgear, and are all secretly mocked by everyone else, including their own mothers). Bright flashy colors are good, and while capes were once a necessity, modern superhero fashion trends seem to be skewing towards the capeless, more simplistic bodysuits and unitards. Complex can be good, but be careful not to let it interfere with your powers; the media will have a field day if you end up tripping over your baggy pants while trying to prevent your archenemy from atomizing a nursing home with his new Death Ray.

ADDED NOTE: If your costume turns out to be an alien symbiote, you're in trouble right off the bat.

OTHER ADDED NOTE: If your costume doesn't mask your face, make sure that you're a god or that your entire family has been murdered (not by you; see Rule 1). Otherwise, you're going to have to make sure that your "everyday look" is altered so that normal citizens can't guess who you really are.

YET ANOTHER ADDED NOTE: This does not apply if you live in Metropolis, where the residents are both blind AND dumb.

5. Naming Yourself

Next to your costume, your most important decision as a superhero is to pick a good name. This is a dangerous proposal, so be sure to think carefully before settling on one; even the best, most well-intentioned superheroes have been laughed off the scene due to ill-chosen names. It's one thing to have your archenemy spraypainting jokes about your name on local skyscrapers; it's another when the local citizens are laughing about it. Just ask Mister Chimp, the Vibro-Pirate, or The Elastic Hillbilly how difficult is to strike fear into the hearts of evil; you'll find all three of them working in the cutting-edge field of "grocery bagging". Let their tragic-yet-hilarious embarrassments be a lesson to us all.

Also, it's suggested that you tie your name with your powers and/or costume in some way. Sure, "Thunderball" might sound good, but when you have to constantly explain to people that your power is in fact the ability to sweat like Rosie O'Donnell on command, you just end

up looking stupid. Remember, image is important. Even a mid-level superhero can aspire to their own Saturday morning cartoon, given the proper image consultant.

ADDED NOTE: Repeatedly yelling your name during combat might be an effective way to promote yourself in the early stages of your career, but you should really consider toning it down after a while. The police are only willing to overlook so many "disturbing the peace" charges.

6. Sidekicks

This is purely optional, as sidekicks definitely aren't for everyone. They're high maintenance, usually mouthy, and are guaranteed to be kidnapped many, many times. Additionally, Children's Aid Societies and Mothers Against Superhero Endangerment will often boycott you, and the conservative media will cast aspersions on your sexuality. Also, despite what popular comics would have you believe, there is a high turnover rate in the sidekick industry. You would be surprised to see how many "little buddies" you'll lose to rampaging robots, death rays, or Superhero Headquarter "accidents". Still, if you're a crappy fighter, sidekicks can be useful, especially if they're dressed in a costume that draws the attention away from you. You'd be surprised how rarely your fighting style is criticized when you're flanked by a masked boy running around in his underwear.

7. Additional Information

- * Remember: be a smartass, or be silent. There is no in-between.
- * Destruction of property is not good. Fight economically; the Justice League of America's reparation bills are astronomical.
- * Pick your enemies wisely. You don't want to be known as "the superhero that can't stop beating on carnival workers".

That's about all you should need to get yourself started on the path to becoming a superhero. Please note that we here at WeHateYou, Inc. cannot be held responsible for any failed marriages, horrible disfigurements, or potential lawsuits incurred by having followed this Guide.

Good Luck! Godspeed! And Beware of Men in Suits Offering Action Figure Contracts!



Spidderman Hits the Big Screen

by Ray MacGregor
Staff Writer

On May 3 2002, the movie many of us have been waiting for will finally hit theatres: Spiderman is becoming a major motion picture. Tobey Maguire leads the cast as Peter Parker, while Kirsten Dunst will play Mary Jane Watson. Sam Raimi directs the movie, and the rest of the cast is made up of actors such as J.K. Simmons, who will play Parker's Boss J. Jonah Jameson of the Daily Bugle, James Franco as Harry Osborn and Willem Dafoe will play Norman Osborn whose alter ego is the Green Goblin.

The storyline will go right back to the Spiderman's origin, where Peter Parker the geeky science student gets bitten by a radioactive (or, as the movie tells it, genetically engineered) spider, only to find that he has obtained superhuman powers. The movie will most likely follow the comic book as closely as it can in order to portray Spiderman the way that we know him.

So far, the movie looks very promising. The trailer looks very good, Spiderman's costume looks great, and the effects used to make Spiderman swing through the city look very realistic. The only thing that I have seen so far that I don't like very much is the Green Goblin's mask. In the comic books, the Green Goblin has a rubber mask and a suit much like that of any super hero or villain. In the movie Green Goblin has a metal looking battle suit and helmet. The reason for this change is that the writers and director decided that because Osborn is rich, he would not have a mask made of something as simple as rubber, especially as he has the technology for

the flying machine the Green Goblin rides on. A colossal flap has also been made about Raimi's decision to alter a key aspect of Spiderman's powers: instead of relying upon the web fluid that the comic-book Parker would make for himself using his knowledge of chemicals, Tobey Maguire's Parker will instead have organic web-shooters that stick out of his wrists. This has wreaked a huge controversy as die-hard purist fans have tried passing a petition for Raimi to re-instate web-fluid; regardless of what you think of it, it should be interesting to see how well it's handled.

If all goes well with this movie, there is sure to be sequels just as they have done in the case of Batman. After the first movie has been put out for audiences to get to know the wallcrawler and his origins, the opportunity to bring in some of Spiderman's many enemies arises. The Scorpion, The Sandman, Rhino, Carnage and of course Venom are a few possible villains that could make for promising sequels.

I for one am very anxious for this movie because I am a very big fan of Spiderman. There's a lot of great comic book characters who have had been made into movies but to me, Spiderman should be the best. In the realm of superheroes, the Parker character is perhaps the most interesting. Superman's disguise is a pair of glasses and his girlfriend Lois Lane must be pretty simple to not realize that Clark Kent is Superman. Don't get me wrong, Superman is a great character, or at least he was until they killed him off and brought him back in some pretty unimaginative ways. Tim Burton made



two great Batman movies but again they overdid it and brought Arnold Schwarzenegger into the mix as Mister Freeze in a version of Batman I would rather forget. X-Men was well done too but Spiderman in my opinion is the one character whose storyline could flow really well in movie form. He's a geeky kid who becomes superhuman and uses his scientific knowledge to make a web formula to swing from building to building in order to catch villains. The one thing I like most about Spiderman more than any other character is that he can be capped just like any other living person. Superman can only be weakened by Kryptonite, Batman wears a bulletproof suit, Spawn is already dead but Spiderman can be shot and killed just like the rest of us. He can't see through buildings, he can't fly, he can't control the weather and he wears a costume that actually fits his character. Spiderman is just a very strong guy who has the reflexes and spider-sense of Martin Brodeur in the Olympics, and swings from his own home made web-fluid.

Peter takes care of his widowed aunt, has a crappy reporter job (hmmm...sounds familiar) and puts up with a boss who needs anger management classes. Spiderman is much like the rest of us except that his girlfriend is a supermodel, but hey we can still dream, can't we?



Next Week's
Feature:

**Cults
and
Cult
Leaders**

Don't Drink the
Kool-Aid!

Upcoming Superhero Flicks

X-MEN 2 (Christmas 2002/Summer 2003): One of the greatest superhero flicks of all time is set to get a sequel – not surprising, considering its success at the box office. The director Bryan Singer and the rest of the cast from the first film are all set to return to for this particular flick, which apparently will touch upon Wolverine (Hugh Jackman)'s mysterious origins, and will also introduce the classic, giant, mutant-hunting androids, the Sentinels. Producers have hinted that fans should skim through the first film and check out exactly how Jean Grey reacted to Wolverine's destruction of Magneto's mutating machine, as it will apparently pave the way for her transformation into the evil Dark Phoenix.

THE INCREDIBLE HULK (Summer 2003): You wouldn't want to get Ang Lee angry. You wouldn't like him when he's angry. The Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon director has signed to make a film about Bruce Banner, the scientist who — after being exposed to gamma radiation — turns into a rampaging if gentle-hearted monster whenever someone ticks him off.

SUPERMAN LIVES (Status Undetermined): The movie — once written by Clerks' Kevin Smith, to (incredulously) star Nicolas Cage and (more incredulously) be directed by Tim Burton — has been exposed to kryptonite in favour of a new TV series — think Roswell meets Lois & Clark — entitled Smallville, which follows a teenage Clark Kent in the small town, which has shed its wholesome image for something more like Twin Peaks.

BATMAN (Status Undetermined): After Joel Schumacher put his slimy hands of death to the franchise, creating the passable Batman Forever, and the truly despicable Batman and Robin, a whopping two Batman flicks are in the works. The more promising of the two is Batman: Year One, an adaptation of the comic-book mini-series by Dark Knight writer/artist Frank Miller, who will co-write the script with Requiem for a Dream director Darren Aronofsky. The second is an adaptation of the Batman Beyond animated series, which will feature a new caped crusader taking over the cowl from an aging (and wheelchair-bound) Bruce Wayne. There's no cast set for either flick.



THE FANTASTIC FOUR (Status Undetermined): Mr. Fantastic, Invisible Girl, the Thing and the Human Torch were almost brought to the big screen by Harry Potter director Chris Columbus, until he bailed over the ballooning budget. Plans are still in the works -- with a cheaper script.

DAREDEVIL: THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR: (Late-2002/early 2003): The action thriller will show how the sightless superhero fell for doomed ninja Elektra. Unfortunately, Ben Affleck has been signed to play the man in red. Who's casting this thing, Joel Schumacher?

WONDER WOMAN (Lost in the Phantom Zone): Yes, seriously. Producer Joel (The Matrix) Silver is looking at starlets including Catherine Zeta-Jones, Sandra Bullock and Mariah Carey as potential leads.

GHOST RIDER (2002): Johnny Blaze is a raging spirit of vengeance — dressed in a leather jacket with a flaming skull where his head should be. Stephen Norrington, who made the first Blade, will direct.

SCOOPY DOO (2002): Hold onto your Scooby snacks, folks, cause this one's going to hurt — a live-action movie starring Freddie Prinze Jr. as Freddie, Sarah Michelle Gellar as Daphne and Matthew Lillard (Scream, SLC Punk) as Shaggy is being directed by the hack who made Big Momma's House. Worse yet, Scooby's going to be computer-generated. Have they no shame?



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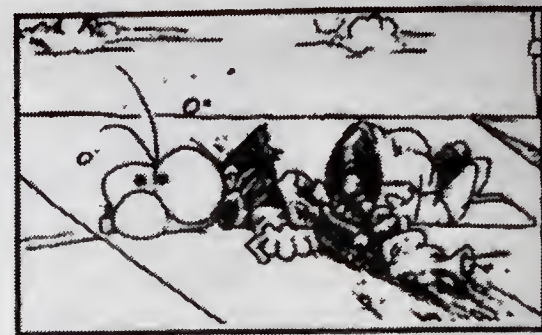
The Top Things I'd Do If I Ever Became An Evil Overlord

1. My Legions of Terror will have helmets with clear plexiglass visors, not face-concealing ones.
2. My ventilation ducts will be too small to crawl through.
3. My noble half-brother whose throne I usurped will be killed, not kept anonymously imprisoned in a forgotten cell of my dungeon.
4. Shooting is *not* too good for my enemies.
5. The artifact which is the source of my power will not be kept on the Mountain of Despair beyond the River of Fire guarded by the Dragons of Eternity. It will be in my safe-deposit box. The same applies to the object which is my one weakness.
6. I will not gloat over my enemies' predicament before killing them.
7. When I've captured my adversary and he says, "Look, before you kill me, will you at least tell me what this is all about?" I'll say, "No." and shoot him. No, on second thought I'll shoot him then say "No."
8. After I kidnap the beautiful princess, we will be married immediately in a quiet civil ceremony, not a lavish spectacle in three weeks' time during which the final phase of my plan will be carried out.
9. I will not include a self-destruct mechanism unless absolutely necessary. If it is necessary, it will not be a large red button labelled "Danger: Do Not Push". The big red button marked "Do Not Push" will instead trigger a spray of bullets on anyone stupid enough to disregard it. Similarly, the ON/OFF switch will not clearly be labelled as such.
10. I will not interrogate my enemies in the inner sanctum — a small hotel well outside my borders will work just as well.
11. I will be secure in my superiority. Therefore, I will feel no need to prove it by leaving clues in the form of riddles or leaving my weaker enemies alive to show they pose no threat.
12. One of my advisors will be an average five-year-old child. Any flaws in my plan that he is able to spot will be corrected before implementation.
13. All slain enemies will be cremated, or at least have several rounds of ammunition emptied into them, not left for dead at the bottom of the cliff. The announcement of their deaths, as well as any accompanying celebration, will be deferred until after the aforementioned disposal.
14. The hero is not entitled to a last kiss, a last cigarette, or any other form of last request.
15. I will never employ any device with a digital countdown. If I find that such a device is absolutely unavoidable, I will set it to activate when the counter reaches 117 and the hero is just putting his plan into operation.
16. I will never utter the sentence "But before I kill you, there's just one thing I want to know."
17. When I employ people as advisors, I will occasionally listen to their advice.
18. I will not have a son. Although his laughably under-planned attempt to usurp power would easily fail, it would provide a fatal distraction at a crucial point in time.
19. I will not have a daughter. She would be as beautiful as she was evil, but one look at the hero's rugged countenance and she'd betray her own father.
20. Despite its proven stress-relieving effect, I will not indulge in maniacal laughter. When so occupied, it's too easy to miss unexpected developments that a more attentive individual could adjust to accordingly.
21. I will hire a talented fashion designer to create original uniforms for my Legions of Terror, as opposed to some cheap knock-offs that make them look like Nazi stormtroopers, Roman footsoldiers, or savage Mongol hordes. All were eventually defeated and I want my troops to have a more positive mind-set.
22. No matter how tempted I am with the prospect of unlimited power, I will not consume any energy field bigger than my head.
23. I will keep a special cache of low-tech weapons and train my troops in their use. That way — even if the heroes manage to neutralize my power generator and/or render the standard-issue energy weapons useless — my troops will not be overrun by a handful of savages armed with spears and rocks.
24. I will maintain a realistic assessment of my strengths and weaknesses. Even though this takes some of the fun out of the job, at least I will never utter the line "No, this cannot be! I AM INVINCIBLE!!!" (After that, death is usually instantaneous.)
25. No matter how well it would perform, I will never construct any sort of machinery which is completely indestructible except for one small and virtually inaccessible vulnerable spot. looks and will gladly betray her companions if I just let her in on my plans.

This Evil Overlord list is Copyright 1996-1997 by Peter Ansbach.

Scraping Superheroic Roadkill Off the Kryptonite-Laced Information Superhighway

by Nick "Socially Irresponsible Lobster Man" Stewart
Assistant Editor...of JUSTICE



Proctor: Down & Dirty

http://www.trsdirect.com/instructors/proctor/down_dirty.htm

Now THIS is a real-life superhero team if I ever saw one. Even the leader's name, Tom Proctor, is the perfect "real name" alias for a superhero, though it's his list of abilities — and that of his cadre of instructors — that's most likely to save the world of crime and villainy. According to the site, Proctor can teach you "the forgotten art of Tao Chi Do", enabling you to go from a flabby wad of cookie dough to an "instantly awesome fighter" in JUST TWO HOURS! Complementing his "instantly awesome" streetfighting skills are a handful of men, all of whom have taught Navy SEALs and U.S. Rangers and so on, who each specialize in one particular field of pain: between Firearms, Knife fighting, Grappling, Russian Fighting Systems, the "very secret" Korean combat style, and Submissions, there is no area in which they cannot kick your ass...to DEATH! Hell, there's even a guy who can teach you how to shatter a human skull with a headbutt! A HEADBUTT! Now take a second to think what would happen if we gave these guys uniforms and loosed them on the world to fight crime...they'd be unstoppable! You could call one "Mister Knifey", and the other could be "Death Fist", and so on. Personally, I'm hoping I can learn the Way of the Exploding Skull, so I can take up the name "Skull Boy", and run around, headbutting evildoers into submission. And, after taking the appropriate Skull-Hardening Chemicals or installing the metallic plates or whatnot, I could use Proctor's "super-intense confidence that people can SMELL" in order to stop crime before it happens!

Bad Guy: "Alright, this is a hold up! Give us all your — sniff sniff — Holy Monkey, we'd better the hell up, I think I smell Skull Boy coming down the street!"

Bad Guy Two: "Man, you know Boxcutter John? I heard that Skull Boy HEADBUTTED him last week!"

Bad Guy: "GOD NO!!!!"

And so on.

Seanbaby's Superfriends Page

<http://seanbaby.com/super.htm>

Batman, Superman, Green Lantern, the Flash...all of these classic types have something in common (except for falling in the "Joel Schumacher wets his bed at night in anticipation of ruining them in cinematic form" category), and that's they were all featured in the eons-old Superfriends cartoon show. Now, if you've ever followed the show, you know how horrendously flawed it was. In the ten years that it was on, the writers changed everybody's powers so frequently that it was impossible to not feel like yelling at the moronic heroes each and every week as they conveniently forgot (or discovered) that they could fly or shoot radioactive glue out of their eyes for the sake of plot. Well, this Seanbaby guy apparently feels the same way, and has compiled a list of profiles on nearly every hero and villain that ever featured in the show, pointing out how ridiculous they came across, or just how mindless their characters were in the first place. For instance, clicking on Batman will jump into his description, which starts off with "Batman was the brains of the group, which is a lot like being the tough guy in the Erasure fan club." The site is freaking hilarious, which is only helped along by the fact that he's pieced together his own "Superfriends comics" by adding text to various scenes snipped from the shows. Way too funny, and anything that finally exposes the Superfriends for the true morons that they were is cool by me.

The Hero Machine

<http://www.heromachine.com/heromachine.html>

If, like me, you have the artistic ability of a box of hair, then you know how frustrating it can be realize your dreams of seeing your own personal superhero on paper. This is where the Hero Machine comes in. Working entirely off Flash (the technology, not the superhero), this site is essentially a program that enables you to put together your very own do-gooder or evil-doer piece by piece, and then personalize him/her/it the way you see fit. Choosing from Super-Hero, Martial Artist and the tank-like Brick, you pop through a long list of individual hero parts, which include facial features, skin, clothes, accessories...the list just goes on and on. It may not sound complex, but believe you me, it is. Even the helmets range from the standard hero headgear to fishbowls to turbans, bowlers, winged caps, baseball caps, and so on. By the time you're done mixing and matching, you can end up with a wide variety of different hero types; one session might land you with someone wearing robotic body armor, a top hat, and an eyepatch while toting a pair of rifles, the next attempt could give you a hero with an afro, a pair of wings, Robin-Hood style boots, and a cape that clings to his business suit. And if the sheer amount of choices are too much for you, just hit the "All Random" button and the program'll whip together something for you. It's insanely addictive, tons of fun, and an absolute must-see for anyone who likes superheroes enough to actually read through all of this.

Superhero Cartoon Database

<http://www.pazsaz.com/scotpage.html>

Throughout the years, TV network execs have squeezed the life out of nearly every possible childhood addiction by somehow turning them into cartoons. From toys to wrestlers to soldiers, there really isn't anything that's gone untouched by their stinking paws, and superheroes are no exception. This site makes it easy to see just how far they've gone by handily listing and describing as many superhero cartoons as you could possibly think of. For instance, clicking on "Aquaman" (who, incidentally, is one of the single most useless superheroes ever created) will land you with a description of the cartoon series' inception, how many years it ran for, how each season was different from the other, the names of the voice actors, as well as a list of the episode titles. The same is true for the sorry likes as RoboCop, the Batman/Tarzan Adventure Hour, Dungeons & Dragons, The Three Robonic Stooges...the list goes on. Of course, there's a ton of cool shows listed here too: stuff like Thundercats, The Tick, Space Ghost Coast to Coast, and Aeon Flux are definitely worth looking up. All in all, this site basically serves as an Internet Movie Database for Superhero Cartoons, though there are a few shows notably missing here. Where's Bo Jackson's ProStars? Where's Hammerman???

SUPERHERO CINEMA

The Good, The Bad and The Meteor Man

The Worst

by Nick "Hobo Justice" Stewart
Assistant Shiv Wielder

The Phantom

Now, don't get me wrong; I usually like Billy Zane. He's done some good movies; The Phantom, however, is not one of them. Dressed in a giant purple leotard, Zane dashes around fighting the evil minions of the most dastardly villain of them all: TREAT WILLIAMS! MWAHAHAHAH! Ahem. Between the horrendous costume, the complete lack of any cool powers or gadgets (beyond his ring, which appears to have been stolen from a much cooler superhero), and the fact that his arch enemy is Treat Freaking Williams — and let's face it, that's like being scared of Bill Paxton — The Phantom stands as one of those movies that we should just pretend never happened.

Meteor Man

Robert Townsend has made to make a career out of less-than-funny comedy, so I suppose that it's appropriate that his attempt at superheroism would also be as amusing as having your face chewed off by a pack of wild librarians. Given, the idea had potential: man gets hit by meteor, becomes disfigured in the process. Having anyone crushed by falling space debris is always a good start. However, he regains his appearance and dashes about, generally being a whiny pansy, saving old women and dogs and the like. It's much lamer than it sounds; if you need more proof, look no further than Bill Cosby, who stars as a bum that saves the day. Really, that's all that needs to be said.

Captain America (1992)

Let's face it. Cap was never the coolest superhero around. He had one of the silliest-looking costumes, that ridiculously overpowered shield (which I argue was a compensation for something, but we won't get into that), and his arch-nemesis was eighteen million times cooler-looking than he was. The foundations for a solid movie weren't exactly there; making one of the guys from Revenge of the Nerds as the main man himself was the final ingredient in this recipe for complete disaster.

The Punisher

This wasn't an altogether bad film, if you just take as a "vigilante kills buttloads of people" movie; if you look at it as a Punisher movie, this is crap. Dolph Lundgren, who

might have been a pretty decent Punisher, is denied even the bulk of the basic uniform. Despite the slaughter of hundreds of people, this movie is still a treasonous one.

Batman & Robin

Ladies and Gentlemen, I've saved the worst for last. Joel Schumacher has transformed one of the greatest characters of all time into a latex-buttocked, protruding-nippled joke. Instead of sticking with the classic style, Joel "I can't direct worth crap" Schumacher has decided to Adam Westify the series; I'm surprised that we didn't see ZOW! ZIFF! POW! throughout the movie. The dialogue and acting are equally terrible; all in all, this was a travesty of the highest degree, for which Joel should have his head mounted on a pike and paraded around comic stores everywhere.

Steel

There is so much wrong with this one, I don't even know where to begin. How's this for starters: Craptastic Shaq is the titular superhero, a former Army type who becomes a crimefighter, dressed entirely in scrapyard rejects. He's a wacky, jive-talkin' superhero, whose arch-nemesis is the awesomely terrifying Judd Nelson! Richard Roundtree, a.k.a. Shaft cameos as the uncle who makes such brilliant wisecracks as "Dip me in shit and roll me in breadcrumbs!" Really, this is a major nexus of crap. It's hard to even laugh at this thing, and believe me, I tried. It's just that bad.

Extra Bonus Psychic Item: Daredevil!

This movie isn't out yet but it is on the boards, and it will come out eventually, and when it does, it will most definitely be worthy of being on this list. How can I make such a bold prediction? Three words: Affleck Is Daredevil. You have been warned.

Did You Know... The Original Cast of Bad Guys for Batman was:

Cat Woman - Annette Benning
Riddler - Robin Williams or
Paul 'PeeWee' Rubens
Two-Face - Anthony Hopkins

The Best

Spawn: The Animated Series

Okay, so these are just collections of episodes from the HBO series, but they're definitely worth checking out. While it's not always as dark as the comics themselves, this stuff is still pretty heavy material that you won't catch on your Saturday morning WB. This is the beginning of the epic tale of a murdered government assassin that signs a pact with the devil, agreeing to become a leader of Hell's army in exchange for the chance to see his wife again. Naturally, things go wrong, Spawn leads a generally hellish existence, squares off against Earthly and Hell-born evil alike, fights for his soul, the whole bit. Great stuff.

The Toxic Avenger 1-4

If you've actually seen any of these, you might wonder why they're actually on this list. The fact of the matter is that some movies are so abjectly terrible, so wretchedly godawful that you can't help but like them. Troma Films has cornered that particular market, with Toxie as its flagship product. The shows are about this nerd that falls into a vat of toxic waste and becomes this hulking, muscular, disfigured mutant of justice; of course, this is Troma, so expect plenty of senseless violence, terrible dialogue, horrid acting, and everything that goes with it. In later films, the likes of Corey Feldman, Ron Jeremy and Hank the Angry Drunken Dwarf all appear, so there you go. So bad that it's funny.

Batman

Tim Burton's greatest gift to the world, next to the Nightmare Before Christmas. This was the Dark Knight at his best, as a tortured, brooding, conflicted individual, going toe-to-toe with one of the single greatest villains of all time: The Joker as played by Jack Nicholson. This is classic, classic stuff. Batman 2 wasn't too terribly bad, but it didn't approach the genius presented by this installation, which quite naturally was horribly warped and twisted by in #3 by the aforementioned Cinematic Satan, Joel Schumacher.

The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai Across the 8th Dimension

Yes, another cheesy hunk of 80s-style freakiness. This bizarre thing is a weird blend of the old Doc Savage comics and some freakish sci-fi concepts to give you Peter Weller (that's Robocop to you) as a rock star/brain

surgeon/samurai/comic-book character/superhero that tries to prevent creatures from another dimension from taking over our own. There are far too many classically twisted performances here, including Christopher Lloyd, Jeff Goldblum, Peter Weller, and of course the scene-chewing, ultra-frantic John Lithgow (hint: imagine his 3rd Rock character on about ten pounds of cocaine).

The Specialists

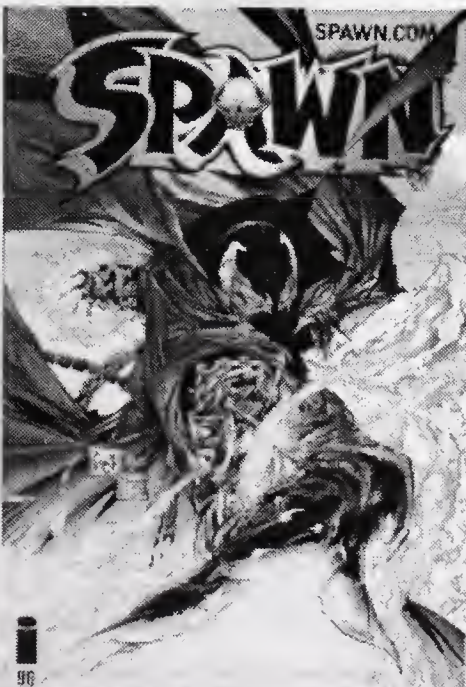
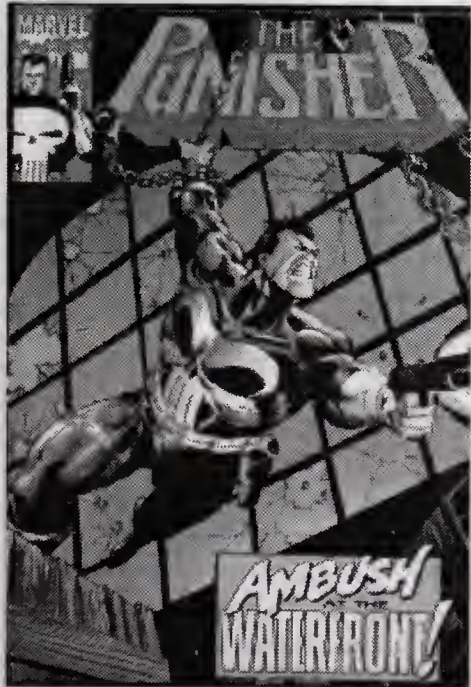
This is the greatest superhero movie that you've never heard of. Made on a budget that ran under a million bucks, this flick stars Rob Lowe and Thomas Hayden Church (you know, the mechanic from Wings) as members of The Specialists, "the seventh-best superhero group in the world". Don't expect any wacky battles with supervillains though, since this is about the group on its day off, and all the infighting and problems that emerge as the group attends the press conference regarding their own line of action figures ("Superheroes don't get Oscars, we get action figures"). Think Mystery Men, only it's good.

Blade

Yeah, yeah, yeah, I know, it's not the greatest vampire flick out there, but it is a damn fine superhero movie. Wesley Snipes shows off his butt-kickingly-excellent martial arts skills as a half-man, half-vampire that lives to hunt bloodsuckers. Of course, there's the whole bit about avenging his mother and Kris Kristofferson as his sidekick and bla bla bla, but you can forget about all of that and just watch Snipes maul his way through the movie. Very dark, visceral, and gory, and very cool. Note: Blade 2 could very well be a hunk of vampiric crap, as its being directed by a guy who, apart from directing Mimic, has mostly been a make-up guy. Be afraid.

The X-Men

Amazingly enough, Brian Singer leaned towards his Usual Suspects type of quality rather than Apt Pupil type of crappiness, and captured the flavor of the X-Men extremely well. Of course, it's damn near impossible to encapsulate decades of history in an hour and a half, but they did really well at capturing the basic essence of the group's origins. The effects were great, Hugh Jackman kicked ass as Wolverine, and Cyclops caused widespread destruction; what's not to like?



Weekly World News Superhero Brief

Superman is Gay, Says Crackpot Preacher

TOPEKA, Kansas - A crackpot clergyman wants to ban all Superman comic books and movies - because he believes the Man of Steel is gay!

"We owe it to our children not to expose them to this kind of flamboyant character, flitting around in the air like Tinkerbell," declares the Reverend Clay Blanblood.

"Real men do NOT prance around in tights. Who knows how many homosexuals got their start from trying to imitate Superman?"

The Topeka-based minister says he reached his bizarre conclusion after poring over hundreds of Superman comics, movies and TV shows dating back to the 1930s.

He cites the following as "evidence" that the beloved superhero is light in his loafers:

1. He dresses in leotards that show off his muscles "and just about everything else."
2. He can never marry Lois Lane, they can only be buddies.
3. He leads a secret double life, "like a closet homosexual," according to the preacher.
4. He wears a cape. "Maybe y'all know some straight guys who waltz around in red capes - I sure don't," Rev. Blanblood declares.
5. He colors his hair with blue highlights.
6. As Clark Kent, he wears glasses even though he doesn't need them. "It's like he's advertising that he's some kind of sissy," the clergyman argues.
7. He is "overly chummy" with cute young cub reporter Jimmy Olsen.
8. He often poses with his hands on his hips, "the traditional gay posture."
9. He has X-ray vision, yet never uses the power to look through women's clothing, "the way any normal, red-blooded American man would," according to the preacher.
10. He's often seen flying through the air carrying a man he's just rescued - something Rev. Blanblood insists "no heterosexual male would be caught dead doing."

This isn't Rev. Blanblood's first foray into popular culture - in the past he's argued the case that Batman and Robin, the Scarlet Pimpernel, Robin Hood, G.I. Joe and even macho characters Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock of Star Trek fame are also gay.

A leading comic book expert calls the preacher's crusade against Superman "idiotic."

*This article can be found with others at
www.weeklyworldnews.com... so don't yell at us for it!*

FlyBoy Buzzes Onto Canadian Bookshelves

by Mat Thompson
Vol 37, Issue 18, Feb. 25, 1999

Once you hit university, it is hard to find time to just sit down and read a good book. As an English major, I haven't had the chance to read a novel of my own choosing since last summer. My life has been filled with Chaucer, Shakespeare, Plautus and many others, and although they are all good, I wanted something new. My bookshelves have filled up with books from friends and clubs that I am meaning to read, but about a month ago (1999) I received the strangest sounding book in the mail: *Flyboy Action Figure Comes With Gasmask*. Now how could I resist such a title?

Ryan, the novel's hero, is your typical University of Toronto student. He lives with a few buds off-campus, is addicted to caffeine, has a crush on a waitress at the diner he frequents and... well... he can turn into a fly! Cassandra, Ryan's lust interest and caffeine dealer is a typical waitress/single mother who... well... can make things disappear. So what do you do when you can turn into a fly and your girlfriend can make things disappear (and has a kid from a supposed alien encounter)? You do what any twenty-something Sailor Moon addict would do. You become superheroes fighting the forces of evil. Now, since the setting is downtown Toronto and evil hasn't run rampant there since the pathetic Blue Jays won a World Series, Flyboy (Ryan) and Ms. Place (Cassandra) take on the villains that inhabit their world, such as cigarette companies, redneck tabloid newspapers (The Sun) and any other evil that may pop up.

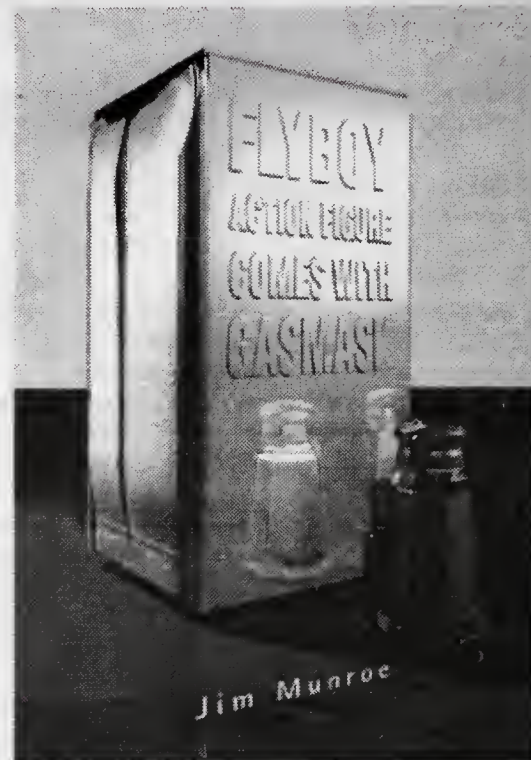
In the press release I received from author Jim Monroe, he calls his novel "Impossible fiction... about two 20-something kids who (like everyone else) have dreams of saving the world." I would call it the first novel I have read that actually captures the mind-set of those of us who grew up wearing underoos, imagining we were superheroes, eating our spinach and trying to take on the neighborhood bully, and saying our prayers and taking our vitamins with

the sole purpose of defeating the evil that surrounded us in your suburban settings. Everyone remembers wanting to have some type of superpower, and this novel follows the intertwining lives of two people who have found, and put to use, what we can only dream of.

Jim Monroe's earlier work could be seen in York University's student newspaper, *Excalibur*, doing "fuck-shit-up journalism" as he so aptly put it. He was also the managing editor for the activism magazine *Adbusters*, as well as writing for many other magazines. Flyboy is his first corporate publication, and hopefully not his last.

The book is written in a very quick, jumpy manner, skipping from one situation to another in almost non-sequential format, but still connecting throughout. A constant theme of Sailor Moon lurks as Ryan not only watches, but connects with the show and its protagonist. What is so interesting about Ryan/Flyboy is that he is just one of us. He is just like any guy you have ever met at university and other than the fly thing, he is just another face in the crowd.

Cassandra, on the other hand, tends to lean towards the very late 90's typical female model. She is a strong willed single mother, former punk singer bisexual who seems to be more of a dominant figure than Ryan. I know this is a strange mix of characteristics, but lately movies, television and books really seem to pack every strong feature into their female leads to try to make every political and feminist group happy. It is almost too much these days, but we have been so de-sensitized to it and we accept it. I still like the character of



to know her if she existed on a more personal level, but she seemed a little too complicated compared to Ryan.

Flyboy Action Figure Comes With Gasmask hit the bookshelves last week (February, 1999) and is a definite steal at less than \$20. Jim Monroe has cast aside the trapping of King and Rice and has created a novel for his generation with the knowledge and talent of a writer like John Irving. University students will definitely love this novel and I am recommending that everyone at Laurentian get Flyboy and put it at the top of your must read list. This is a beginning of a new wave of writers who can actually speak to us, the generation of novel hounds.

Editor's Note: Flyboy Action Figure Comes With Gasmask is still available at Chapters.ca. Just search the title or the author and order away!

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BATMAN AND THE JOKER SAY...



If You Think You're
Invincible, Try to
Stop a Train With
Your Tongue.
If It doesn't
Work... You Were
Wrong!

THE KENT FILES

Laurentian's own Super-Villian Matt Kent has compiled his list of the best and worst of comic heroes and villains. You may not agree, but since he's the Feature's Editor, he gets to print his lists and you don't!

WORLD'S GREATEST SUPERHEROES

BLADE

Yes, you've all seen the Wesley Snipes flick...but there are a few details that the movie added. Blade isn't a vampire; he's merely immune to their bite. He used to lead a group of vampire hunters, whose ultimate target was Dracula. Eventually, Blade ambushed and killed him, though he was later resurrected and got his revenge by killing Blade's hunters. Our hero drifted from group to group taking jobs for cash. At one point he was even hired to hunt down Ghost Rider, but after realising that the Ghost was a good guy, the two teamed up against Blade's employer and whooped her ass. In a massive battle against Lord Varnae, the creator of all vampires, his two partners were killed. In the end, all this did was to strengthen Blade's quest to rid the world of vampires.

BATMAN

Bruce Wayne's parents were killed when he was just a boy, and their fortune was left to him. He used his loss, and his gain, to turn himself into Gotham City's savior. With better technology than the US military and fighting skills that would make Van Damme crap himself with fear, he is able to keep Gotham's crime at bay. He was replaced for a short stint by Azrael when his back was busted up, but he's back now, and stronger than ever. I still say that he should be the Joker's bitch.



SPIDERMAN

The web-slinging, wall-crawling, wise-ass has always been my favorite, not because of who he is, but because of all the stuff he gets to do. He is inferior to both Venom and Carnage, but he is married to supermodel Mary Jane Watson. He even got to date the Black Cat....come to think of it, he's seen a lot of good lookin' girls. He's had his ass kicked repeatedly, his boss hates him, and it seems that everyone he cares about has something nasty happen to them. Basically, he makes me feel better about myself.

WORST COMIC CHARACTERS EVER

ANT MAN

Do I even have to explain why this is a crappy character? This guy's daughter was gonna die, so he goes and steals this costume with all kinds of helpful technology from another superhero. First off....why is this stuff just lying around for someone to take? How does it work out to be so convenient that the suit's former owner lets the guy keep it? It seems to me that if I had a suit that was super-powerful, I wouldn't let anyone near it; I'd probably use it to drive the cops and most of society insane. The reason the guy lets him keep the suit is because he promises to use it for only moral purposes. HA! If I could shrink myself to really small sizes, I can guarantee you that no good would come of it, but oh the videos I would make, and the money I would make selling them.

NAMOR / SUB-MARINER

Aquaman anyone? This guy rules Atlantis, rises from the deep to help humans for some unknown reason, can lift 85 tons, and can fly at speeds up to 65 mph. It seems to me that this guy was the result of a long night of drinking and smoking. He's nowhere near as popular as the other characters. I wonder why? Then there's the crowning touch: the guy has little white wings on his ankles; what the hell? Suddenly, we're seeing remnants from Greek mythology? The first time I saw this guy I couldn't stop laughing, as he is the most ridiculous looking character ever.

RALF SNART

I don't understand this comic at all. There's this dysfunctional little bastard with a big nose who's married to the world's largest, angriest woman, and he's constantly being chased by this sociopathic doctor who's obsessed with killing Ralf. I have no idea why. There's pointless sex (PG-13 style), mindless violence, and storylines that are thinner than Britney Spears' clothing. Did I mention that he has a giant talking lizard as a pet?

MOLE MAN

Welcome to the world of the mole people. There is no escape!! Right. So here we have this pissed off little midget who rules over the world of Subterranea. I'm not even going to bother explaining this one. Go see if you can figure him out; I think I've seen his wife scurrying around UC.

SHE-HULK

The only failed remnant of the women's lib movement. How was this hero created? Not by gamma radiation or a nuclear mosquito, but by tainted blood. A simple medical procedure gone wrong. Now this defence attorney spends her time smashing badguys. I'm all in favour of freedom for the women, I even like a lot of the female super heroines but this character just sucks. She has to do weight training to increase her strength which means she's not much different from average females, as she was just given a little help. She cheated! But I bet Captain Kirk would like her.

SHANG-CHI

Master of Kung Fu; former secret agent and fisherman. What a combination. It's like Jean Claude Van Damme, James Bond and Bob Izumi all rolled into one. What the hell are comic book characters coming to? Are they that hard up for ideas? I spend my days doodling and thinking up stories about a dyslexic rabbit on PCP. I could make a killing!

WORLD'S GREATEST SUPERVILLAINS

THE GREEN GOBLIN

Not to be confused with his pansy-assed mimic the Hobgoblin, the Green Goblin was and always will be Spiderman's greatest nemesis. He is the alter ego of Norman Osborne II, brought about by Osborne's lust for power. Osborne learned of a chemical that was intended to increase both physical and intellectual power, which he synthesized and administered to himself. The result was an explosion which corrupted his mind in ways that he could have never predicted, unleashing a demon from his psyche that had plagued him since his youth. The Green Goblin was responsible for the death of Spiderman's first love, Gwen Stacy, when he flung her from the top of a bridge. In the resulting battle, the Goblin was impaled by his own glider. But what a lot of people don't know is that the Goblin Formula that transformed him also saved his life. He retreated to Europe where he rules a massive criminal empire.

RED SKULL

What's more fun than Nazis? How about the perfect Nazi soldier, one who has gained so much influence amongst the Reich that even Hitler feared him. Born Johann Schmidt, the Skull was drafted into Hitler's army to be his greatest soldier. Unfortunately, during the closing days of the war, Captain America discovered the Skull's hidden bunker and in the ensuing battle the Skull was trapped in a cave-in. He was sent into suspended animation by a strange mixture of gasses. He was revived decades later as was Captain America, who had also been put into suspended animation. The two continue to mess with each other to this day.

VENOM

Eddie Brock was a journalist for the same newspaper that Peter Parker worked for. But when Spiderman exposed one of Brock's articles as false, his world fell apart. Before the original symbiote merged with Brock, it accidentally merged with his wife, and after separation, she was reduced to a state where she feared everything outside of her apartment. Then, one day she saw Spiderman swing by the window wearing his black suit and committed suicide out of fear. From that day, Brock swore he would destroy Spiderman. When he merged with the Symbiote, Venom was formed. Never has there been a more chaotic, malicious creature. Not even Carnage can compete with Venom's destructive power.

CARNAGE

What do you get when you combine a homicidal maniac with a symbiotic alien? Nothing good. Carnage is the spawn of Venom, the symbiote merged with Cletus Kasady shortly after Eddie Brock escaped from prison. Kasady was serving 11 consecutive life terms for murder, and the powers granted him by the symbiote allowed him to launch into a citywide crime spree that even Spiderman couldn't stop. Carnage is comparable to Spiderman, or he would be if Spiderman were to drop acid 18 times a day, shoot heroin then get fired from the postal service.

THE JOKER

The first and greatest Batman villain ever. Completely psychotic, yet totally ingenious. His face was distorted in an accident that involved Batman, giving him a joker-like appearance. He is known as the Prince of Laughs, and whenever he does something, it's always funny....to him, at least. What makes him so special? Even with his complete lack of super-human powers or futuristic technology, he has managed to reach the rank of Batman's greatest enemy. His psychosis removes any fear he may have had, while he is driven by his hatred of the Bat for making him what he is. He is a magnet for those who believe that they are above the law, with whom he amasses huge armies of hoodlums with which to battle the Bat; strange that he has yet to win. In my mind, Bruce Wayne should have been deep-fried at least a dozen times by now. Oh well, power to the loonies!!!



Powers... We Don't Need No Stinkin' Powers!

by Mat Thompson
Editor In Chief

Although I was brought up on comic books, super heroes and action figures, I have always been partial to the heroes who don't actually have a super power. You know the type; a guy with a grudge against some form of society (usually the villains) and he does whatever he can to exact justice... vigilante style!

The Punisher

Ever since the early 1980's when I picked up my first Punisher comic, I was hooked. Here was a regular man, Frank Castle, who turned from good cop to bad ass, protector of the innocent when his family is killed in a gang land shoot out in Central Park. Although he is friends with Daredevil, and has a love/hate relationship with Spiderman, The Punisher uses what comes naturally to him. Well, that and a bunch of guns, knives, explosives and everything else you can use as a weapon.

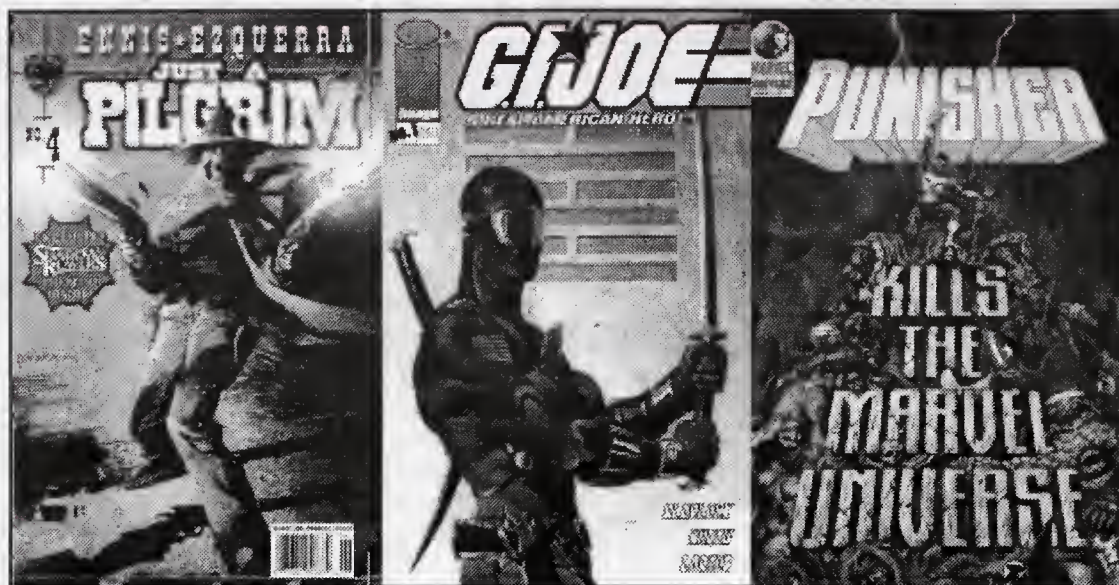
Although The Punisher series was officially canceled by Marvel in the early 1990's, there have been a few resurrections here and there. Most failed to get the attention of the audience as The Punisher was turned into an avenging angel, a mafia hitman and even a futuristic super hero with special powers. What got the audience was the realism of the character.

Through the Punisher, Punisher War Journal and Punisher War Zone (I own them all), Frank Castle was shown to be a real human, pushed to his limits in a society where crime is a way of life, but does not have to be accepted. It is these classic series that the newly resurrected Punisher collection is based.

About a year ago now Marvel hired Garth Ennis to bring back the old Punisher from the dead and make fans notice. In a 12 comic mini-series Ennis did just that. The Punisher was back badder than he ever was. He became the one-man fighting machine that fans always loved and remembered. Now, banking on the success of the mini-series, Marvel has once again made The Punisher a monthly series with all new bad guys, mostly mafia, for Punisher to go after.

In a strange twist, Issue #8 of the current Punisher Series strays from the norm, taking Punisher back in time to fight the likes of Al Capone. You have to read it to get the full story, but Frank enlists the help of Nick Fury and the Fantastic Four to send him back to the roaring 20's and in the middle of the Capone era.

Although The Punisher can be seen as one of the more violent com-



Forget Super-Powers.... These Guys Just Kick Ass!!!

ics around, it is the "every man on a quest for truth and vengeance" idea that makes these comics so great. As long as we need a real hero, The Punisher will be around.

Just a Pilgrim

From the same people who resurrected The Punisher comes a new comic, somewhat based on the same principle as The Punisher, but with a futuristic and religious twist. Just a Pilgrim features the newest in antiheroes, a scripture-quoting gunslinger with a scar of a cross burnt into his face.

The Pilgrim appears out of nowhere to help a caravan of humans trying to cross the great deserts of the world to find the oceans which remain. In this story, the world has dried up, leaving barely any water except in the deepest caverns of the oceans. People travel from thousands of miles to get to the water, passing graveyards of whale bones, sunken ships and roving gangs trying to take over the desert world.

The Pilgrim kills much like The Punisher, but always quotes the scriptures as he does so. Although he is a religious man, he still has a mean streak. In the first comic he kills a dog for barking at him too much, the states "He had the devil in him".

Just a Pilgrim is like an opposite tale than Waterworld where people are searching for water instead of land. The twist is they are being led by a gunslinger who seems religious, but has a very dark past. I won't give it away, but it sure beats the hell out of the alter-egos of Superman and Batman!

... and Knowing is Half the Battle!!!

Anyone who grew up in the 1980's and early 90's knows that call. GI Joe was the greatest American (and Canadian) hero around. For years the likes of Duke, Rock N Roll,

Roadblock, Snake Eyes, Scarlett, Clutch, Steeler, Snowjob and all the others defended the world, and Springville, from the evil Cobra Command.

Many of us were sad to see Marvel disband GI Joe back in 1993, but recently Image Comics has purchased the rights to GI Joe and are now releasing a new series. That's right... GI Joe is back!!!

The great thing about this set of comics is it picks up from today. Duke and Flint are forced to reassemble the GI Joe unit when word of the resurgence of Cobra comes forth. As Duke tries to get everyone back, along with some new recruits, Cobra Commander brings back Lt. Blood, Destro, Tomax & Xamot, Serpentor, Baroness and even the worlds most hideous terrorist group, The Dreadnots, lead by Zartan and his daughter Zarana.

Many of the original Joes do not return as they are not in shape or just cannot cut it as a Joe. Many of the new recruits work with the original Joes, or replace them in their duties. Everyone is trained side by side, and a new generation of GI Joes is ready for the world.

I have always been a sucker for GI Joe and this new series is phenomenal. The new generation of good and bad mixed with the classic is pure genius! At a time when the world seems to be looking for escapism from reality while looking for a new hero, GI Joe is once again in the thing.

The first comic was released on September 12th, 2001 and does mention terrorist actions. The timing could not have been better or worse. Although North America was still reeling from the 9/11 attacks, this new GI Joe was a welcome surprise. They weren't out to be the next X-Men or Avengers. GI Joe was back to protect America, and they picked a damn fine time to do it.

The series is just coming up on issue #4 and has also announced that they are now going monthly. The first two issues are already hard to find and Image is releasing a reprint featuring the first two in one graphic novel. And speaking of graphic novels, all the original GI Joe comics are being released in a series of graphic novels for those of us who lost, destroyed or left our old comics behind. Check them out!

And Then There Was One...

Have you ever wondered who could actually take out all the super heroes of the world? They have fought for years and years, but no one could ever destroy the X-Men, Avengers, Spiderman and all the others. Well, a few years back Garth Ennis was commissioned by Marvel Comics to write the definitive comic... *Punisher Kills the Marvel Universe*.

In this comic, Frank Castle's

family is murdered in the crossfire of an X-Men vs Aliens confrontation in Central Park. When Cyclops and Jubilee try to explain that innocents must die for them to protect the world, he shoots them between the eyes, killing them in front of the rest of the X-Men.

After being brought up on murder charges, the Punisher is then bailed out by a disfigured millionaire with a proposal: kill the super heroes.

Now working for an underground group of people injured and disfigured in random super hero battles, the Punisher sets out to kill everyone in a cape or mask. He takes out Spiderman and Venom in a sewer. When Spiderman asks why they are being punished, Frank answers, "Because someone had to be first". He goes on to destroy Captain America, Thor and The Hulk, the Fantastic Four, X-Men and their enemies on the moon, and hunts and kills different superheroes one by one, leaving Wolverine until last.

The final confrontation of the comic is between Punisher and Daredevil. Almost done his murderous rampage, Punisher explains why he must kill them all, including his best friend. Daredevil exclaims that Frank has killed the entire Marvel Universe, but in true Punisher style, he knows there is still one more to go. You can guess what happens next.

Punisher Kills the Marvel Universe has been reprinted a few times now, though it is still hard to find a copy. It still stands as one of the coolest stories Marvel ever came up with. Punisher fans will love this comic while others will contest the deaths of certain mutants as impossible. No matter what, this comic proves that you don't need to be a super hero with special powers to be the biggest, baddest dog in the yard!



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